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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ROHM AND HAAS COMPANY [US/US]; 100 Independece Mall West, Philadelphia, PA 19106-2399 (US).

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(54) Title: NOVEL ECDYSONE RECEPTOR-BASED INDUCIBLE GENE EXPRESSION SYSTEM

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GAL4CfEcR

GAL4DNARD

CfEcR

VP16RXR

VP16RXR

pGAL4RELucGAL4RE TATA

(57) Abstract: This invention relates to the field of biotechnology or genetic engineering. Specifically, this invention relates to the field of gene expression. More specifically, this invention relates to a novel inducible gene expression system and methods of modulating gene expression in a host cell for applications such as gene therapy, large scale production of proteins and antibodies, cell-based high throughput screening assays, functional genomics and regulation of traits in transgenic plants and animals.

**NOVEL ECDYSONE RECEPTOR-BASED INDUCIBLE GENE  
EXPRESSION SYSTEM**

This application claims priority to co-pending US provisional application Serial  
5 number 60/191,355, filed March 22, 2000 and to co-pending US provisional application Serial  
number 60/269,799, filed February 20, 2001.

**FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

10 This invention relates to the field of biotechnology or genetic engineering. Specifically, this invention relates to the field of gene expression. More specifically, this invention relates to a novel ecdysone receptor-based inducible gene expression system and methods of modulating the expression of a gene within a host cell using this inducible gene expression system.

15 **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

In the field of genetic engineering, precise control of gene expression is a valuable tool for studying, manipulating, and controlling development and other physiological processes. Gene expression is a complex biological process involving a number of specific protein-protein 20 interactions. In order for gene expression to be triggered, such that it produces the RNA necessary as the first step in protein synthesis, a transcriptional activator must be brought into proximity of a promoter that controls gene transcription. Typically, the transcriptional activator itself is associated with a protein that has at least one DNA binding domain that binds to DNA binding sites present in the promoter regions of genes. Thus, for gene expression to 25 occur, a protein comprising a DNA binding domain and a transactivation domain located at an appropriate distance from the DNA binding domain must be brought into the correct position in the promoter region of the gene.

The traditional transgenic approach utilizes a cell-type specific promoter to drive the expression of a designed transgene. A DNA construct containing the transgene is first 30 incorporated into a host genome. When triggered by a transcriptional activator, expression of the transgene occurs in a given cell type.

Another means to regulate expression of foreign genes in cells is through inducible promoters. Examples of the use of such inducible promoters include the PR1-a promoter, prokaryotic repressor-operator systems, immunosuppressive-immunophilin systems, and higher

eukaryotic transcription activation systems such as steroid hormone receptor systems and are described below.

The PR1-a promoter from tobacco is induced during the systemic acquired resistance response following pathogen attack. The use of PR1-a may be limited because it often 5 responds to endogenous materials and external factors such as pathogens, UV-B radiation, and pollutants. Gene regulation systems based on promoters induced by heat shock, interferon and heavy metals have been described (Wurn et al., 1986, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 83:5414-5418; Arnheiter et al., 1990 Cell 62:51-61; Filmus et al., 1992 Nucleic Acids Research 20:27550-27560). However, these systems have limitations due to their effect on expression of 10 non-target genes. These systems are also leaky.

Prokaryotic repressor-operator systems utilize bacterial repressor proteins and the unique operator DNA sequences to which they bind. Both the tetracycline ("Tet") and lactose ("Lac") repressor-operator systems from the bacterium *Escherichia coli* have been used in plants and animals to control gene expression. In the Tet system, tetracycline binds to the TetR 15 repressor protein, resulting in a conformational change which releases the repressor protein from the operator which as a result allows transcription to occur. In the Lac system, a lac operon is activated in response to the presence of lactose, or synthetic analogs such as isopropyl-β-D-thiogalactoside. Unfortunately, the use of such systems is restricted by unstable chemistry of the ligands, *i.e.* tetracycline and lactose, their toxicity, their natural presence, or 20 the relatively high levels required for induction or repression. For similar reasons, utility of such systems in animals is limited.

Immunosuppressive molecules such as FK506, rapamycin and cyclosporine A can bind to immunophilins FKBP12, cyclophilin, *etc.* Using this information, a general strategy has been devised to bring together any two proteins simply by placing FK506 on each of the two 25 proteins or by placing FK506 on one and cyclosporine A on another one. A synthetic homodimer of FK506 (FK1012) or a compound resulted from fusion of FK506-cyclosporine (FKCsA) can then be used to induce dimerization of these molecules (Spencer et al., 1993, *Science* 262:1019-24; Belshaw et al., 1996 *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 93:4604-7). Gal4 DNA binding domain fused to FKBP12 and VP16 activator domain fused to cyclophilin, and FKCsA 30 compound were used to show heterodimerization and activation of a reporter gene under the control of a promoter containing Gal4 binding sites. Unfortunately, this system includes immunosuppressants that can have unwanted side effects and therefore, limits its use for various mammalian gene switch applications.

Higher eukaryotic transcription activation systems such as steroid hormone receptor systems have also been employed. Steroid hormone receptors are members of the nuclear receptor superfamily and are found in vertebrate and invertebrate cells. Unfortunately, use of steroid compounds that activate the receptors for the regulation of gene expression, 5 particularly in plants and mammals, is limited due to their involvement in many other natural biological pathways in such organisms. In order to overcome such difficulties, an alternative system has been developed using insect ecdysone receptors (EcR).

Growth, molting, and development in insects are regulated by the ecdysone steroid hormone (molting hormone) and the juvenile hormones (Dhadialla, et al., 1998. *Annu. Rev. Entomol.* 43: 545-569). The molecular target for ecdysone in insects consists of at least ecdysone receptor (EcR) and ultraspiracle protein (USP). EcR is a member of the nuclear steroid receptor super family that is characterized by signature DNA and ligand binding domains, and an activation domain (Koelle et al. 1991, *Cell*, 67:59-77). EcR receptors are responsive to a number of steroid compounds such as ponasterone A and muristerone A. 10 Recently, non-steroidal compounds with ecdysteroid agonist activity have been described, including the commercially available insecticides tebufenozide and methoxyfenozide that are marketed world wide by Rohm and Haas Company (see International Patent Application No. PCT/EP96/00686 and US Patent 5,530,028). Both analogs have exceptional safety profiles to other organisms. 15 International Patent Application No. PCT/US97/05330 (WO 97/38117) discloses methods for modulating the expression of an exogenous gene in which a DNA construct comprising the exogenous gene and an ecdysone response element is activated by a second DNA construct comprising an ecdysone receptor that, in the presence of a ligand therefor, and optionally in the presence of a receptor capable of acting as a silent partner, binds to the 20 ecdysone response element to induce gene expression. The ecdysone receptor of choice was isolated from *Drosophila melanogaster*. Typically, such systems require the presence of the silent partner, preferably retinoid X receptor (RXR), in order to provide optimum activation. In mammalian cells, insect ecdysone receptor (EcR) heterodimerizes with retinoid X receptor (RXR) and regulates expression of target genes in a ligand dependent manner. International 25 Patent Application No. PCT/US98/14215 (WO 99/02683) discloses that the ecdysone receptor isolated from the silk moth *Bombyx mori* is functional in mammalian systems without the need for an exogenous dimer partner.

U.S. Patent No. 5,880,333 discloses a *Drosophila melanogaster* EcR and ultraspiracle

(USP) heterodimer system used in plants in which the transactivation domain and the DNA binding domain are positioned on two different hybrid proteins. Unfortunately, this system is not effective for inducing reporter gene expression in animal cells (for comparison, see Example 1.2, below).

5 In each of these cases, the transactivation domain and the DNA binding domain (either as native EcR as in International Patent Application No. PCT/US98/14215 or as modified EcR as in International Patent Application No. PCT/US97/05330) were incorporated into a single molecule and the other heterodimeric partners, either USP or RXR, were used in their native state.

10 Drawbacks of the above described EcR-based gene regulation systems include a considerable background activity in the absence of ligands and that these systems are not applicable for use in both plants and animals (see U.S. Patent No. 5,880,333). For most applications that rely on modulating gene expression, these EcR-based systems are undesirable. Therefore, a need exists in the art for improved systems to precisely modulate the expression of 15 exogenous genes in both plants and animals. Such improved systems would be useful for applications such as gene therapy, large scale production of proteins and antibodies, cell-based high throughput screening assays, functional genomics and regulation of traits in transgenic animals. Improved systems that are simple, compact, and dependent on ligands that are relatively inexpensive, readily available, and of low toxicity to the host would prove useful for 20 regulating biological systems.

Various publications are cited herein, the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference in their entireties. However, the citation of any reference herein should not be construed as an admission that such reference is available as "Prior Art" to the instant application.

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### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a novel ecdysone receptor-based inducible gene expression system, novel receptor polynucleotides and polypeptides for use in the novel 30 inducible gene expression system, and methods of modulating the expression of a gene within a host cell using this inducible gene expression system. In particular, Applicants' invention relates to an improved gene expression modulation system comprising a polynucleotide encoding a receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation.

Specifically, the present invention relates to a gene expression modulation system comprising: a) a first gene expression cassette that is capable of being expressed in a host cell comprising a polynucleotide that encodes a first polypeptide comprising: i) a DNA-binding domain that recognizes a response element associated with a gene whose expression is to be modulated; and ii) a ligand binding domain comprising a ligand binding domain from a nuclear receptor; and b) a second gene expression cassette that is capable of being expressed in the host cell comprising a polynucleotide sequence that encodes a second polypeptide comprising: i) a transactivation domain; and ii) a ligand binding domain comprising a ligand binding domain from a nuclear receptor other than an ultraspiracle receptor; wherein the DNA binding domain and the transactivation domain are from a polypeptide other than an ecdysone receptor, a retinoid X receptor, or an ultraspiracle receptor; wherein the ligand binding domains from the first polypeptide and the second polypeptide are different and dimerize.

In a specific embodiment, the ligand binding domain of the first polypeptide comprises an ecdysone receptor (EcR) ligand binding domain

15 In another specific embodiment, the ligand binding domain of the second polypeptide comprises a retinoid X receptor (RXR) ligand binding domain.

In a preferred embodiment, the ligand binding domain of the first polypeptide comprises an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain and the ligand binding domain of the second polypeptide comprises a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain

20 The present invention also relates to a gene expression modulation system according to the invention further comprising c) a third gene expression cassette comprising: i) a response element to which the DNA-binding domain of the first polypeptide binds; ii) a promoter that is activated by the transactivation domain of the second polypeptide; and iii) the gene whose expression is to be modulated.

25 The present invention also relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding a truncated EcR or a truncated RXR polypeptide, wherein the truncation mutation affects ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity.

In particular, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding a truncated EcR or a truncated RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces 30 ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity of said EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a specific embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding a truncated EcR or a truncated RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of said EcR or RXR polypeptide. In another specific

embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding a truncated EcR or a truncated RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces non-steroid binding activity or non-steroid sensitivity of said EcR or RXR polypeptide.

The present invention also relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding a truncated EcR or a truncated RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity of said EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a specific embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding a truncated EcR or a truncated RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of said EcR or RXR polypeptide. In another specific embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding a truncated EcR or a truncated RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances non-steroid binding activity or non-steroid sensitivity of said EcR or RXR polypeptide.

The present invention also relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding a truncated RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that increases ligand sensitivity of a heterodimer comprising the truncated retinoid X receptor polypeptide and a dimerization partner. In a specific embodiment, the dimerization partner is an ecdysone receptor polypeptide.

The present invention also relates to an isolated polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide according to Applicants' invention. In particular, the present invention relates to an isolated truncated EcR or truncated RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation, wherein the EcR or RXR polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide according to the invention.

Thus, the present invention also relates to an isolated truncated EcR or truncated RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that affects ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity of said EcR or RXR polypeptide.

Applicants' invention also relates to methods of modulating gene expression in a host cell using a gene expression modulation system according to the invention. Specifically, Applicants' invention provides a method of modulating the expression of a gene in a host cell comprising the gene to be modulated comprising the steps of: a) introducing into the host cell a gene expression modulation system according to the invention; and b) introducing into the host cell a ligand that independently combines with the ligand binding domains of the first polypeptide and the second polypeptide of the gene expression modulation system; wherein the gene to be expressed is a component of a chimeric gene comprising: i) a response element

comprising a domain to which the DNA binding domain from the first polypeptide binds; ii) a promoter that is activated by the transactivation domain of the second polypeptide; and iii) the gene whose expression is to be modulated, whereby a complex is formed comprising the ligand, the first polypeptide, and the second polypeptide, and whereby the complex modulates

5 expression of the gene in the host cell.

Applicants' invention also provides an isolated host cell comprising an inducible gene expression system according to the invention. The present invention also relates to an isolated host cell comprising a polynucleotide or polypeptide according to the invention. Accordingly,

Applicants' invention also relates to a non-human organism comprising a host cell according to

10 the invention.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Figure 1: An ecdysone receptor-based gene expression system comprising a first gene expression cassette encoding a Gal4DBD-CfEcRDEF chimeric polypeptide and a second gene expression cassette encoding a VP16AD-MmRXRDEF chimeric polypeptide; prepared as 5 described in Example 1 (switch 1.1).

Figure 2: An ecdysone receptor-based gene expression system comprising a first gene expression cassette encoding a Gal4DBD-CfEcRDEF chimeric polypeptide and a second gene expression cassette encoding a VP16AD-CfUSPDEF chimeric polypeptide; prepared as described in Example 1 (switch 1.2).

10 Figure 3: An ecdysone receptor-based gene expression system comprising a first gene expression cassette encoding a Gal4DBD-MmRXRDEF chimeric polypeptide and a second gene expression cassette encoding a VP16AD-CfEcRCDEF chimeric polypeptide; prepared as described in Example 1 (switch 1.3).

Figure 4: An ecdysone receptor-based gene expression system comprising a first gene expression cassette encoding a Gal4DBD-MmRXRDEF chimeric polypeptide and a second gene expression cassette encoding a VP16AD-DmEcRCDEF chimeric polypeptide; prepared as 15 described in Example 1 (switch 1.4).

20 Figure 5: An ecdysone receptor-based gene expression system comprising a first gene expression cassette encoding a Gal4DBD-CfUSPDEF chimeric polypeptide and a second gene expression cassette encoding a VP16AD-CfEcRCDEF chimeric polypeptide; prepared as described in Example 1 (switch 1.5).

Figure 6: An ecdysone receptor-based gene expression system comprising a first gene expression cassette encoding a Gal4DBD-CfEcRDEF-VP16AD chimeric polypeptide; prepared as described in Example 1 (switch 1.6).

25 Figure 7: An ecdysone receptor-based gene expression system comprising a first gene expression cassette encoding a VP16AD-CfEcRCDEF chimeric polypeptide; prepared as described in Example 1 (switch 1.7).

Figure 8: An ecdysone receptor-based gene expression system comprising a first gene expression cassette encoding a VP16AD-DmEcRCDEF chimeric polypeptide and a second 30 gene expression cassette encoding a MmRXR polypeptide; prepared as described in Example 1 (switch 1.8).

Figure 9: An ecdysone receptor-based gene expression system comprising a first gene expression cassette encoding a VP16AD-CfEcRCDEF chimeric polypeptide and a second gene expression cassette encoding a MmRXR polypeptide; prepared as described in Example 1 (switch 1.9).

5 Figure 10: An ecdysone receptor-based gene expression system comprising a gene expression cassette encoding a Gal4DBD-CfEcRCDEF chimeric polypeptide; prepared as described in Example 1 (switch 1.10).

Figure 11: Expression data of GAL4CfEcRA/BCDEF, GAL4CfEcRCDEF, GAL4CfEcR1/2CDEF, GAL4CfEcRDEF, GAL4CfEcREF, GAL4CfEcRDE truncation

10 mutants transfected into NIH3T3 cells along with VP16MmRXRDE, pFRLUc and pTKRL plasmid DNAs.

Figure 12: Expression data of GAL4CfEcRA/BCDEF, GAL4CfEcRCDEF, GAL4CfEcR1/2CDEF, GAL4CfEcRDEF, GAL4CfEcREF, GAL4CfEcRDE truncation mutants transfected into 3T3 cells along with VP16MmRXRE, pFRLUc and pTKRL plasmid

15 DNAs.

Figure 13: Expression data of VP16MmRXRA/BCDEF, VP16MmRXRCDEF, VP16MmRXRDEF, VP16MmRXREF, VP16MmRXRBam-EF, VP16MmRXRAF2del constructs transfected into NIH3T3 cells along with GAL4CfEcRCDEF, pFRLUc and pTKRL plasmid DNAs.

20 Figure 14: Expression data of VP16MmRXRA/BCDEF, VP16MmRXRCDEF, VP16MmRXRDEF, VP16MmRXREF, VP16MmRXRBam-EF, VP16MmRXRAF2del constructs transfected into NIH3T3 cells along with GAL4CfEcRDEF, pFRLUc and pTKRL plasmid DNAs.

Figure 15: Expression data of various truncated CfEcR and MmRXR receptor pairs

25 transfected into NIH3T3 cells along with GAL4CfEcRDEF, pFRLUc and pTKRL plasmid DNAs.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

30 Applicants have now developed an improved ecdysone receptor-based inducible gene expression system comprising a truncation mutant of an ecdysone receptor or a retinoid X receptor (RXR) polypeptide that affects ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity. This mutational effect may increase or reduce ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity and may

be steroid or non-steroid specific. Thus, Applicants' invention provides an improved ecdysone receptor-based inducible gene expression system useful for modulating expression of a gene of interest in a host cell. In a particularly desirable embodiment, Applicants' invention provides an inducible gene expression system that has a reduced level of background gene expression

5 and responds to submicromolar concentrations of non-steroidal ligand. Thus, Applicants' novel inducible gene expression system and its use in methods of modulating gene expression in a host cell overcome the limitations of currently available inducible expression systems and provide the skilled artisan with an effective means to control gene expression.

The present invention provides a novel inducible gene expression system that can be

10 used to modulate gene expression in both prokaryotic and eukaryotic host cells. Applicants' invention is useful for applications such as gene therapy, large scale production of proteins and antibodies, cell-based high throughput screening assays, functional genomics and regulation of traits in transgenic organisms.

## 15 DEFINITIONS

In this disclosure, a number of terms and abbreviations are used. The following definitions are provided and should be helpful in understanding the scope and practice of the present invention.

In a specific embodiment, the term "about" or "approximately" means within 20%,

20 preferably within 10%, more preferably within 5%, and even more preferably within 1% of a given value or range.

The term "substantially free" means that a composition comprising "A" (where "A" is a single protein, DNA molecule, vector, recombinant host cell, etc.) is substantially free of "B" (where "B" comprises one or more contaminating proteins, DNA molecules, vectors, etc.) when

25 at least about 75% by weight of the proteins, DNA, vectors (depending on the category of species to which A and B belong) in the composition is "A". Preferably, "A" comprises at least about 90% by weight of the A+B species in the composition, most preferably at least about 99% by weight. It is also preferred that a composition, which is substantially free of contamination, contain only a single molecular weight species having the activity or

30 characteristic of the species of interest.

The term "isolated" for the purposes of the present invention designates a biological material (nucleic acid or protein) that has been removed from its original environment (the environment in which it is naturally present).

For example, a polynucleotide present in the natural state in a plant or an animal is not isolated. The same polynucleotide separated from the adjacent nucleic acids in which it is naturally present. The term "purified" does not require the material to be present in a form exhibiting absolute purity, exclusive of the presence of other compounds. It is rather a relative 5 definition.

A polynucleotide is in the "purified" state after purification of the starting material or of the natural material by at least one order of magnitude, preferably 2 or 3 and preferably 4 or 5 orders of magnitude.

A "nucleic acid" is a polymeric compound comprised of covalently linked subunits 10 called nucleotides. Nucleic acid includes polyribonucleic acid (RNA) and polydeoxyribonucleic acid (DNA), both of which may be single-stranded or double-stranded. DNA includes but is not limited to cDNA, genomic DNA, plasmids DNA, synthetic DNA, and semi-synthetic DNA. DNA may be linear, circular, or supercoiled.

A "nucleic acid molecule" refers to the phosphate ester polymeric form of 15 ribonucleosides (adenosine, guanosine, uridine or cytidine; "RNA molecules") or deoxyribonucleosides (deoxyadenosine, deoxyguanosine, deoxythymidine, or deoxycytidine; "DNA molecules"), or any phosphoester analogs thereof, such as phosphorothioates and thioesters, in either single stranded form, or a double-stranded helix. Double stranded DNA-DNA, DNA-RNA and RNA-RNA helices are possible. The term nucleic acid molecule, and in 20 particular DNA or RNA molecule, refers only to the primary and secondary structure of the molecule, and does not limit it to any particular tertiary forms. Thus, this term includes double-stranded DNA found, *inter alia*, in linear or circular DNA molecules (e.g., restriction fragments), plasmids, and chromosomes. In discussing the structure of particular double-stranded DNA molecules, sequences may be described herein according to the normal 25 convention of giving only the sequence in the 5' to 3' direction along the non-transcribed strand of DNA (i.e., the strand having a sequence homologous to the mRNA). A "recombinant DNA molecule" is a DNA molecule that has undergone a molecular biological manipulation.

The term "fragment" will be understood to mean a nucleotide sequence of reduced 30 length relative to the reference nucleic acid and comprising, over the common portion, a nucleotide sequence identical to the reference nucleic acid. Such a nucleic acid fragment according to the invention may be, where appropriate, included in a larger polynucleotide of which it is a constituent. Such fragments comprise, or alternatively consist of, oligonucleotides ranging in length from at least 8, 10, 12, 15, 18, 20 to 25, 30, 40, 50, 70, 80, 100, 200, 500,

1000 or 1500 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleic acid according to the invention.

As used herein, an "isolated nucleic acid fragment" is a polymer of RNA or DNA that is single- or double-stranded, optionally containing synthetic, non-natural or altered nucleotide bases. An isolated nucleic acid fragment in the form of a polymer of DNA may be comprised 5 of one or more segments of cDNA, genomic DNA or synthetic DNA.

A "gene" refers to an assembly of nucleotides that encode a polypeptide, and includes cDNA and genomic DNA nucleic acids. "Gene" also refers to a nucleic acid fragment that expresses a specific protein or polypeptide, including regulatory sequences preceding (5' non-coding sequences) and following (3' non-coding sequences) the coding sequence. "Native gene" 10 refers to a gene as found in nature with its own regulatory sequences. "Chimeric gene" refers to any gene that is not a native gene, comprising regulatory and/or coding sequences that are not found together in nature. Accordingly, a chimeric gene may comprise regulatory sequences and coding sequences that are derived from different sources, or regulatory sequences and coding sequences derived from the same source, but arranged in a manner different than that 15 found in nature. A chimeric gene may comprise coding sequences derived from different sources and/or regulatory sequences derived from different sources. "Endogenous gene" refers to a native gene in its natural location in the genome of an organism. A "foreign" gene or "heterologous" gene refers to a gene not normally found in the host organism, but that is introduced into the host organism by gene transfer. Foreign genes can comprise native genes 20 inserted into a non-native organism, or chimeric genes. A "transgene" is a gene that has been introduced into the genome by a transformation procedure.

"Heterologous" DNA refers to DNA not naturally located in the cell, or in a chromosomal site of the cell. Preferably, the heterologous DNA includes a gene foreign to the cell.

25 The term "genome" includes chromosomal as well as mitochondrial, chloroplast and viral DNA or RNA.

A nucleic acid molecule is "hybridizable" to another nucleic acid molecule, such as a cDNA, genomic DNA, or RNA, when a single stranded form of the nucleic acid molecule can anneal to the other nucleic acid molecule under the appropriate conditions of temperature and 30 solution ionic strength (see Sambrook *et al.*, 1989 *infra*). Hybridization and washing conditions are well known and exemplified in Sambrook, J., Fritsch, E. F. and Maniatis, T. *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Second Edition, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor (1989), particularly Chapter 11 and Table 11.1 therein (entirely

incorporated herein by reference). The conditions of temperature and ionic strength determine the "stringency" of the hybridization.

Stringency conditions can be adjusted to screen for moderately similar fragments, such as homologous sequences from distantly related organisms, to highly similar fragments, such as genes that duplicate functional enzymes from closely related organisms. For preliminary screening for homologous nucleic acids, low stringency hybridization conditions, corresponding to a  $T_m$  of 55°, can be used, *e.g.*, 5x SSC, 0.1% SDS, 0.25% milk, and no formamide; or 30% formamide, 5x SSC, 0.5% SDS). Moderate stringency hybridization conditions correspond to a higher  $T_m$ , *e.g.*, 40% formamide, with 5x or 6x SCC. High stringency hybridization conditions correspond to the highest  $T_m$ , *e.g.*, 50% formamide, 5x or 6x SCC. Hybridization requires that the two nucleic acids contain complementary sequences, although depending on the stringency of the hybridization, mismatches between bases are possible.

The term "complementary" is used to describe the relationship between nucleotide bases that are capable of hybridizing to one another. For example, with respect to DNA, adenosine is complementary to thymine and cytosine is complementary to guanine. Accordingly, the instant invention also includes isolated nucleic acid fragments that are complementary to the complete sequences as disclosed or used herein as well as those substantially similar nucleic acid sequences.

In a specific embodiment, the term "standard hybridization conditions" refers to a  $T_m$  of 55°C, and utilizes conditions as set forth above. In a preferred embodiment, the  $T_m$  is 60°C; in a more preferred embodiment, the  $T_m$  is 65°C.

Post-hybridization washes also determine stringency conditions. One set of preferred conditions uses a series of washes starting with 6X SSC, 0.5% SDS at room temperature for 15 minutes (min), then repeated with 2X SSC, 0.5% SDS at 45°C for 30 minutes, and then repeated twice with 0.2X SSC, 0.5% SDS at 50°C for 30 minutes. A more preferred set of stringent conditions uses higher temperatures in which the washes are identical to those above except for the temperature of the final two 30 min washes in 0.2X SSC, 0.5% SDS was increased to 60°C. Another preferred set of highly stringent conditions uses two final washes in 0.1X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 65°C. Hybridization requires that the two nucleic acids comprise complementary sequences, although depending on the stringency of the hybridization, mismatches between bases are possible.

The appropriate stringency for hybridizing nucleic acids depends on the length of the nucleic acids and the degree of complementation, variables well known in the art. The greater

the degree of similarity or homology between two nucleotide sequences, the greater the value of  $T_m$  for hybrids of nucleic acids having those sequences. The relative stability (corresponding to higher  $T_m$ ) of nucleic acid hybridizations decreases in the following order: RNA:RNA, DNA:RNA, DNA:DNA. For hybrids of greater than 100 nucleotides in length, equations for 5 calculating  $T_m$  have been derived (see Sambrook *et al.*, *supra*, 9.50-0.51). For hybridization with shorter nucleic acids, *i.e.*, oligonucleotides, the position of mismatches becomes more important, and the length of the oligonucleotide determines its specificity (see Sambrook *et al.*, *supra*, 11.7-11.8).

In one embodiment the length for a hybridizable nucleic acid is at least about 10 10 nucleotides. Preferable a minimum length for a hybridizable nucleic acid is at least about 15 nucleotides; more preferably at least about 20 nucleotides; and most preferably the length is at least 30 nucleotides. Furthermore, the skilled artisan will recognize that the temperature and wash solution salt concentration may be adjusted as necessary according to factors such as length of the probe.

15 The term "probe" refers to a single-stranded nucleic acid molecule that can base pair with a complementary single stranded target nucleic acid to form a double-stranded molecule.

As used herein, the term "oligonucleotide" refers to a nucleic acid, generally of at least 18 nucleotides, that is hybridizable to a genomic DNA molecule, a cDNA molecule, a plasmid DNA or an mRNA molecule. Oligonucleotides can be labeled, *e.g.*, with  $^{32}P$ -nucleotides or 20 nucleotides to which a label, such as biotin, has been covalently conjugated. A labeled oligonucleotide can be used as a probe to detect the presence of a nucleic acid.

Oligonucleotides (one or both of which may be labeled) can be used as PCR primers, either for cloning full length or a fragment of a nucleic acid, or to detect the presence of a nucleic acid. An oligonucleotide can also be used to form a triple helix with a DNA molecule. Generally, 25 oligonucleotides are prepared synthetically, preferably on a nucleic acid synthesizer.

Accordingly, oligonucleotides can be prepared with non-naturally occurring phosphoester analog bonds, such as thioester bonds, etc.

A "primer" is an oligonucleotide that hybridizes to a target nucleic acid sequence to create a double stranded nucleic acid region that can serve as an initiation point for DNA 30 synthesis under suitable conditions. Such primers may be used in a polymerase chain reaction.

"Polymerase chain reaction" is abbreviated PCR and means an *in vitro* method for enzymatically amplifying specific nucleic acid sequences. PCR involves a repetitive series of temperature cycles with each cycle comprising three stages: denaturation of the template

nucleic acid to separate the strands of the target molecule, annealing a single stranded PCR oligonucleotide primer to the template nucleic acid, and extension of the annealed primer(s) by DNA polymerase. PCR provides a means to detect the presence of the target molecule and, under quantitative or semi-quantitative conditions, to determine the relative amount of that

5 target molecule within the starting pool of nucleic acids.

“Reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction” is abbreviated RT-PCR and means an *in vitro* method for enzymatically producing a target cDNA molecule or molecules from an RNA molecule or molecules, followed by enzymatic amplification of a specific nucleic acid sequence or sequences within the target cDNA molecule or molecules as described above. RT-  
10 PCR also provides a means to detect the presence of the target molecule and, under quantitative or semi-quantitative conditions, to determine the relative amount of that target molecule within the starting pool of nucleic acids.

A DNA “coding sequence” is a double-stranded DNA sequence that is transcribed and translated into a polypeptide in a cell *in vitro* or *in vivo* when placed under the control of  
15 appropriate regulatory sequences. “Suitable regulatory sequences” refer to nucleotide sequences located upstream (5' non-coding sequences), within, or downstream (3' non-coding sequences) of a coding sequence, and which influence the transcription, RNA processing or stability, or translation of the associated coding sequence. Regulatory sequences may include promoters, translation leader sequences, introns, polyadenylation recognition sequences, RNA  
20 processing site, effector binding site and stem-loop structure. The boundaries of the coding sequence are determined by a start codon at the 5' (amino) terminus and a translation stop codon at the 3' (carboxyl) terminus. A coding sequence can include, but is not limited to, prokaryotic sequences, cDNA from mRNA, genomic DNA sequences, and even synthetic DNA sequences. If the coding sequence is intended for expression in a eukaryotic cell, a  
25 polyadenylation signal and transcription termination sequence will usually be located 3' to the coding sequence.

“Open reading frame” is abbreviated ORF and means a length of nucleic acid sequence, either DNA, cDNA or RNA, that comprises a translation start signal or initiation codon, such as an ATG or AUG, and a termination codon and can be potentially translated into  
30 a polypeptide sequence.

The term “head-to-head” is used herein to describe the orientation of two polynucleotide sequences in relation to each other. Two polynucleotides are positioned in a head-to-head orientation when the 5' end of the coding strand of one polynucleotide is adjacent

to the 5' end of the coding strand of the other polynucleotide, whereby the direction of transcription of each polynucleotide proceeds away from the 5' end of the other polynucleotide.

The term "head-to-head" may be abbreviated (5')-to-(5') and may also be indicated by the symbols ( $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ ) or (3' $\leftarrow$ 5'5' $\rightarrow$ 3').

5 The term "tail-to-tail" is used herein to describe the orientation of two polynucleotide sequences in relation to each other. Two polynucleotides are positioned in a tail-to-tail orientation when the 3' end of the coding strand of one polynucleotide is adjacent to the 3' end of the coding strand of the other polynucleotide, whereby the direction of transcription of each polynucleotide proceeds toward the other polynucleotide. The term "tail-to-tail" may be  
10 abbreviated (3')-to-(3') and may also be indicated by the symbols ( $\rightarrow \leftarrow$ ) or (5' $\rightarrow$ 3'3' $\leftarrow$ 5').

The term "head-to-tail" is used herein to describe the orientation of two polynucleotide sequences in relation to each other. Two polynucleotides are positioned in a head-to-tail orientation when the 5' end of the coding strand of one polynucleotide is adjacent to the 3' end of the coding strand of the other polynucleotide, whereby the direction of transcription of each  
15 polynucleotide proceeds in the same direction as that of the other polynucleotide. The term "head-to-tail" may be abbreviated (5')-to-(3') and may also be indicated by the symbols ( $\rightarrow \rightarrow$ ) or (5' $\rightarrow$ 3'5' $\rightarrow$ 3').

The term "downstream" refers to a nucleotide sequence that is located 3' to reference  
20 nucleotide sequence. In particular, downstream nucleotide sequences generally relate to sequences that follow the starting point of transcription. For example, the translation initiation codon of a gene is located downstream of the start site of transcription.

The term "upstream" refers to a nucleotide sequence that is located 5' to reference nucleotide sequence. In particular, upstream nucleotide sequences generally relate to sequences that are located on the 5' side of a coding sequence or starting point of transcription. For  
25 example, most promoters are located upstream of the start site of transcription.

The terms "restriction endonuclease" and "restriction enzyme" refer to an enzyme that binds and cuts within a specific nucleotide sequence within double stranded DNA.

"Homologous recombination" refers to the insertion of a foreign DNA sequence into another DNA molecule, e.g., insertion of a vector in a chromosome. Preferably, the vector  
30 targets a specific chromosomal site for homologous recombination. For specific homologous recombination, the vector will contain sufficiently long regions of homology to sequences of the chromosome to allow complementary binding and incorporation of the vector into the chromosome. Longer regions of homology, and greater degrees of sequence similarity, may

increase the efficiency of homologous recombination.

Several methods known in the art may be used to propagate a polynucleotide according to the invention. Once a suitable host system and growth conditions are established,

recombinant expression vectors can be propagated and prepared in quantity. As described

5 herein, the expression vectors which can be used include, but are not limited to, the following vectors or their derivatives: human or animal viruses such as vaccinia virus or adenovirus; insect viruses such as baculovirus; yeast vectors; bacteriophage vectors (e.g., lambda), and plasmid and cosmid DNA vectors, to name but a few.

A "vector" is any means for the cloning of and/or transfer of a nucleic acid into a host 10 cell. A vector may be a replicon to which another DNA segment may be attached so as to

bring about the replication of the attached segment. A "replicon" is any genetic element (e.g., plasmid, phage, cosmid, chromosome, virus) that functions as an autonomous unit of DNA replication *in vivo*, *i.e.*, capable of replication under its own control. The term "vector"

includes both viral and nonviral means for introducing the nucleic acid into a cell *in vitro*, *ex*

15 *vivo* or *in vivo*. A large number of vectors known in the art may be used to manipulate nucleic acids, incorporate response elements and promoters into genes, etc. Possible vectors include, for example, plasmids or modified viruses including, for example bacteriophages such as

lambda derivatives, or plasmids such as PBR322 or pUC plasmid derivatives, or the Bluescript vector. For example, the insertion of the DNA fragments corresponding to response elements

20 and promoters into a suitable vector can be accomplished by ligating the appropriate DNA fragments into a chosen vector that has complementary cohesive termini. Alternatively, the ends of the DNA molecules may be enzymatically modified or any site may be produced by ligating nucleotide sequences (linkers) into the DNA termini. Such vectors may be engineered to contain selectable marker genes that provide for the selection of cells that have incorporated

25 the marker into the cellular genome. Such markers allow identification and/or selection of host cells that incorporate and express the proteins encoded by the marker.

Viral vectors, and particularly retroviral vectors, have been used in a wide variety of gene delivery applications in cells, as well as living animal subjects. Viral vectors that can be used include but are not limited to retrovirus, adeno-associated virus, pox, baculovirus,

30 vaccinia, herpes simplex, Epstein-Barr, adenovirus, geminivirus, and caulimovirus vectors.

Non-viral vectors include plasmids, liposomes, electrically charged lipids (cytoseptins), DNA-protein complexes, and biopolymers. In addition to a nucleic acid, a vector may also comprise one or more regulatory regions, and/or selectable markers useful in selecting, measuring, and

monitoring nucleic acid transfer results (transfer to which tissues, duration of expression, etc.).

The term "plasmid" refers to an extra chromosomal element often carrying a gene that is not part of the central metabolism of the cell, and usually in the form of circular double-stranded DNA molecules. Such elements may be autonomously replicating sequences, genome 5 integrating sequences, phage or nucleotide sequences, linear, circular, or supercoiled, of a single- or double-stranded DNA or RNA, derived from any source, in which a number of nucleotide sequences have been joined or recombined into a unique construction which is capable of introducing a promoter fragment and DNA sequence for a selected gene product along with appropriate 3' untranslated sequence into a cell.

10 A "cloning vector" is a "replicon", which is a unit length of a nucleic acid, preferably DNA, that replicates sequentially and which comprises an origin of replication, such as a plasmid, phage or cosmid, to which another nucleic acid segment may be attached so as to bring about the replication of the attached segment. Cloning vectors may be capable of replication in one cell type and expression in another ("shuttle vector").

15 Vectors may be introduced into the desired host cells by methods known in the art, e.g., transfection, electroporation, microinjection, transduction, cell fusion, DEAE dextran, calcium phosphate precipitation, lipofection (lysosome fusion), use of a gene gun, or a DNA vector transporter (see, e.g., Wu et al., 1992, J. Biol. Chem. 267:963-967; Wu and Wu, 1988, J. Biol. Chem. 263:14621-14624; and Hartmut et al., Canadian Patent Application No.

20 2,012,311, filed March 15, 1990).

A polynucleotide according to the invention can also be introduced *in vivo* by lipofection. For the past decade, there has been increasing use of liposomes for encapsulation and transfection of nucleic acids *in vitro*. Synthetic cationic lipids designed to limit the difficulties and dangers encountered with liposome mediated transfection can be used to prepare liposomes for *in vivo* 25 transfection of a gene encoding a marker (Felgner et al., 1987. PNAS 84:7413; Mackey, et al., 1988. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 85:8027-8031; and Ulmer et al., 1993. Science 259:1745-1748). The use of cationic lipids may promote encapsulation of negatively charged nucleic acids, and also promote fusion with negatively charged cell membranes (Felgner and Ringold, 1989. Science 337:387-388). Particularly useful lipid compounds and compositions for transfer of 30 nucleic acids are described in International Patent Publications WO95/18863 and WO96/17823, and in U.S. Patent No. 5,459,127. The use of lipofection to introduce exogenous genes into the specific organs *in vivo* has certain practical advantages. Molecular targeting of liposomes to specific cells represents one area of benefit. It is clear that directing transfection to particular cell

types would be particularly preferred in a tissue with cellular heterogeneity, such as pancreas, liver, kidney, and the brain. Lipids may be chemically coupled to other molecules for the purpose of targeting (Mackey, et al., 1988, *supra*). Targeted peptides, *e.g.*, hormones or neurotransmitters, and proteins such as antibodies, or non-peptide molecules could be coupled to liposomes

5 chemically.

Other molecules are also useful for facilitating transfection of a nucleic acid *in vivo*, such as a cationic oligopeptide (*e.g.*, WO95/21931), peptides derived from DNA binding proteins (*e.g.*, WO96/25508), or a cationic polymer (*e.g.*, WO95/21931).

It is also possible to introduce a vector *in vivo* as a naked DNA plasmid (see U.S. 10 Patents 5,693,622, 5,589,466 and 5,580,859). Receptor-mediated DNA delivery approaches can also be used (Curiel et al., 1992. *Hum. Gene Ther.* 3:147-154; and Wu and Wu, 1987. *J. Biol. Chem.* 262:4429-4432).

The term "transfection" means the uptake of exogenous or heterologous RNA or DNA by a cell. A cell has been "transfected" by exogenous or heterologous RNA or DNA when 15 such RNA or DNA has been introduced inside the cell. A cell has been "transformed" by exogenous or heterologous RNA or DNA when the transfected RNA or DNA effects a phenotypic change. The transforming RNA or DNA can be integrated (covalently linked) into chromosomal DNA making up the genome of the cell.

"Transformation" refers to the transfer of a nucleic acid fragment into the genome of a 20 host organism, resulting in genetically stable inheritance. Host organisms containing the transformed nucleic acid fragments are referred to as "transgenic" or "recombinant" or "transformed" organisms.

The term "genetic region" will refer to a region of a nucleic acid molecule or a nucleotide sequence that comprises a gene encoding a polypeptide.

25 In addition, the recombinant vector comprising a polynucleotide according to the invention may include one or more origins for replication in the cellular hosts in which their amplification or their expression is sought, markers or selectable markers.

The term "selectable marker" means an identifying factor, usually an antibiotic or chemical resistance gene, that is able to be selected for based upon the marker gene's effect, 30 *i.e.*, resistance to an antibiotic, resistance to a herbicide, colorimetric markers, enzymes, fluorescent markers, and the like, wherein the effect is used to track the inheritance of a nucleic acid of interest and/or to identify a cell or organism that has inherited the nucleic acid of

interest. Examples of selectable marker genes known and used in the art include: genes providing resistance to ampicillin, streptomycin, gentamycin, kanamycin, hygromycin, bialaphos herbicide, sulfonamide, and the like; and genes that are used as phenotypic markers, *i.e.*, anthocyanin regulatory genes, isopentanyl transferase gene, and the like.

5 The term "reporter gene" means a nucleic acid encoding an identifying factor that is able to be identified based upon the reporter gene's effect, wherein the effect is used to track the inheritance of a nucleic acid of interest, to identify a cell or organism that has inherited the nucleic acid of interest, and/or to measure gene expression induction or transcription. Examples of reporter genes known and used in the art include: luciferase (Luc), green fluorescent protein 10 (GFP), chloramphenicol acetyltransferase (CAT),  $\beta$ -galactosidase (LacZ),  $\beta$ -glucuronidase (Gus), and the like. Selectable marker genes may also be considered reporter genes.

"Promoter" refers to a DNA sequence capable of controlling the expression of a coding sequence or functional RNA. In general, a coding sequence is located 3' to a promoter sequence. Promoters may be derived in their entirety from a native gene, or be composed of 15 different elements derived from different promoters found in nature, or even comprise synthetic DNA segments. It is understood by those skilled in the art that different promoters may direct the expression of a gene in different tissues or cell types, or at different stages of development, or in response to different environmental or physiological conditions. Promoters that cause a gene to be expressed in most cell types at most times are commonly referred to as "constitutive 20 promoters". Promoters that cause a gene to be expressed in a specific cell type are commonly referred to as "cell-specific promoters" or "tissue-specific promoters". Promoters that cause a gene to be expressed at a specific stage of development or cell differentiation are commonly referred to as "developmentally-specific promoters" or "cell differentiation-specific promoters". Promoters that are induced and cause a gene to be expressed following exposure or treatment 25 of the cell with an agent, biological molecule, chemical, ligand, light, or the like that induces the promoter are commonly referred to as "inducible promoters" or "regulatable promoters". It is further recognized that since in most cases the exact boundaries of regulatory sequences have not been completely defined, DNA fragments of different lengths may have identical promoter activity.

30 A "promoter sequence" is a DNA regulatory region capable of binding RNA polymerase in a cell and initiating transcription of a downstream (3' direction) coding sequence. For purposes of defining the present invention, the promoter sequence is bounded at its 3' terminus by the transcription initiation site and extends upstream (5' direction) to include

the minimum number of bases or elements necessary to initiate transcription at levels detectable above background. Within the promoter sequence will be found a transcription initiation site (conveniently defined for example, by mapping with nuclease S1), as well as protein binding domains (consensus sequences) responsible for the binding of RNA polymerase.

5 A coding sequence is "under the control" of transcriptional and translational control sequences in a cell when RNA polymerase transcribes the coding sequence into mRNA, which is then trans-RNA spliced (if the coding sequence contains introns) and translated into the protein encoded by the coding sequence.

10 "Transcriptional and translational control sequences" are DNA regulatory sequences, such as promoters, enhancers, terminators, and the like, that provide for the expression of a coding sequence in a host cell. In eukaryotic cells, polyadenylation signals are control sequences.

15 The term "response element" means one or more cis-acting DNA elements which confer responsiveness on a promoter mediated through interaction with the DNA-binding domains of the first chimeric gene. This DNA element may be either palindromic (perfect or imperfect) in its sequence or composed of sequence motifs or half sites separated by a variable number of nucleotides. The half sites can be similar or identical and arranged as either direct or inverted repeats or as a single half site or multimers of adjacent half sites in tandem. The response element may comprise a minimal promoter isolated from different organisms  
20 depending upon the nature of the cell or organism into which the response element will be incorporated. The DNA binding domain of the first hybrid protein binds, in the presence or absence of a ligand, to the DNA sequence of a response element to initiate or suppress transcription of downstream gene(s) under the regulation of this response element. Examples of DNA sequences for response elements of the natural ecdysone receptor include:  
25 RRGG/TTCANTGAC/ACYY (see Cherbas L., et. al., (1991), *Genes Dev.* 5, 120-131); AGGTCAN<sub>(n)</sub>AGGTCA, where N<sub>(n)</sub> can be one or more spacer nucleotides (see D'Avino PP., et. al., (1995), *Mol. Cell. Endocrinol.*, 113, 1-9); and GGGTTGAATGAATT (see Antoniewski C., et. al., (1994). *Mol. Cell Biol.* 14, 4465-4474).

30 The term "operably linked" refers to the association of nucleic acid sequences on a single nucleic acid fragment so that the function of one is affected by the other. For example, a promoter is operably linked with a coding sequence when it is capable of affecting the expression of that coding sequence (i.e., that the coding sequence is under the transcriptional control of the promoter). Coding sequences can be operably linked to regulatory sequences in

sense or antisense orientation.

The term "expression", as used herein, refers to the transcription and stable accumulation of sense (mRNA) or antisense RNA derived from a nucleic acid or polynucleotide. Expression may also refer to translation of mRNA into a protein or

5 polypeptide.

The terms "cassette", "expression cassette" and "gene expression cassette" refer to a segment of DNA that can be inserted into a nucleic acid or polynucleotide at specific restriction sites or by homologous recombination. The segment of DNA comprises a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide of interest, and the cassette and restriction sites are designed to ensure

10 insertion of the cassette in the proper reading frame for transcription and translation.

"Transformation cassette" refers to a specific vector comprising a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide of interest and having elements in addition to the polynucleotide that facilitate transformation of a particular host cell. Cassettes, expression cassettes, gene expression cassettes and transformation cassettes of the invention may also comprise elements that allow

15 for enhanced expression of a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of interest in a host cell. These elements may include, but are not limited to: a promoter, a minimal promoter, an enhancer, a response element, a terminator sequence, a polyadenylation sequence, and the like.

For purposes of this invention, the term "gene switch" refers to the combination of a response element associated with a promoter, and an EcR based system which, in the presence

20 of one or more ligands, modulates the expression of a gene into which the response element and promoter are incorporated.

The terms "modulate" and "modulates" mean to induce, reduce or inhibit nucleic acid or gene expression, resulting in the respective induction, reduction or inhibition of protein or polypeptide production.

25 The plasmids or vectors according to the invention may further comprise at least one promoter suitable for driving expression of a gene in a host cell. The term "expression vector" means a vector, plasmid or vehicle designed to enable the expression of an inserted nucleic acid sequence following transformation into the host. The cloned gene, i.e., the inserted nucleic acid sequence, is usually placed under the control of control elements such as a promoter, a minimal

30 promoter, an enhancer, or the like. Initiation control regions or promoters, which are useful to drive expression of a nucleic acid in the desired host cell are numerous and familiar to those skilled in the art. Virtually any promoter capable of driving these genes is suitable for the present invention including but not limited to: viral promoters, plant promoters, bacterial

promoters, animal promoters, mammalian promoters, synthetic promoters, constitutive promoters, tissue specific promoter, developmental specific promoters, inducible promoters, light regulated promoters; *CYC1, HIS3, GAL1, GAL4, GAL10, ADH1, PGK, PHO5, GAPDH, ADC1, TRP1, URA3, LEU2, ENO, TPI*, alkaline phosphatase promoters (useful for expression 5 in *Saccharomyces*); *AOX1* promoter (useful for expression in *Pichia*); *b-lactamase, lac, ara, tet, trp, lP<sub>L</sub>, lP<sub>R</sub>, T7, tac, and trc* promoters (useful for expression in *Escherichia coli*); and light regulated-, seed specific-, pollen specific-, ovary specific-, pathogenesis or disease related-, cauliflower mosaic virus 35S, CMV 35S minimal, cassava vein mosaic virus (CsVMV), chlorophyll a/b binding protein, ribulose 1, 5-bisphosphate carboxylase, shoot- 10 specific, root specific, chitinase, stress inducible, rice tungro bacilliform virus, plant super-promoter, potato leucine aminopeptidase, nitrate reductase, mannopine synthase, nopaline synthase, ubiquitin, zein protein, and anthocyanin promoters (useful for expression in plant cells); animal and mammalian promoters known in the art include, but are not limited to, the SV40 early (SV40e) promoter region, the promoter contained in the 3' long terminal repeat 15 (LTR) of Rous sarcoma virus (RSV), the promoters of the E1A or major late promoter (MLP) genes of adenoviruses, the cytomegalovirus early promoter, the herpes simplex virus (HSV) thymidine kinase (TK) promoter, an elongation factor 1 alpha (EF1) promoter, a phosphoglycerate kinase (PGK) promoter, a ubiquitin (Ubc) promoter, an albumin promoter, the regulatory sequences of the mouse metallothionein-L promoter, and transcriptional control 20 regions, the ubiquitous promoters (HPRT, vimentin,  $\alpha$ -actin, tubulin and the like), the promoters of the intermediate filaments (desmin, neurofilaments, keratin, GFAP, and the like), the promoters of therapeutic genes (of the MDR, CFTR or factor VIII type, and the like), and promoters that exhibit tissue specificity and have been utilized in transgenic animals, such as the elastase I gene control region which is active in pancreatic acinar cells; insulin gene control 25 region active in pancreatic beta cells, immunoglobulin gene control region active in lymphoid cells, mouse mammary tumor virus control region active in testicular, breast, lymphoid and mast cells; albumin gene, Apo AI and Apo AII control regions active in liver, alpha-fetoprotein gene control region active in liver, alpha 1-antitrypsin gene control region active in the liver, beta-globin gene control region active in myeloid cells, myelin basic protein gene control region 30 active in oligodendrocyte cells in the brain, myosin light chain-2 gene control region active in skeletal muscle, and gonadotropin releasing hormone gene control region active in the hypothalamus, pyruvate kinase promoter, villin promoter, promoter of the fatty acid binding intestinal protein, promoter of the smooth muscle cell  $\alpha$ -actin, and the like. In a preferred

embodiment of the invention, the promoter is selected from the group consisting of a cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter, a cassava vein mosaic virus promoter, and a cauliflower mosaic virus 35S minimal promoter, an elongation factor 1 alpha (EF1) promoter, a phosphoglycerate kinase (PGK) promoter, a ubiquitin (Ubc) promoter, and an albumin 5 promoter. In addition, these expression sequences may be modified by addition of enhancer or regulatory sequences and the like.

Enhancers that may be used in embodiments of the invention include but are not limited to: tobacco mosaic virus enhancer, cauliflower mosaic virus 35S enhancer, tobacco etch virus enhancer, ribulose 1, 5-bisphosphate carboxylase enhancer, rice tungro bacilliform virus 10 enhancer, and other plant and viral gene enhancers, and the like.

Termination control regions, *i.e.*, terminator or polyadenylation sequences, may also be derived from various genes native to the preferred hosts. Optionally, a termination site may be unnecessary, however, it is most preferred if included. In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the termination control region may be comprise or be derived from a synthetic 15 sequence, synthetic polyadenylation signal, an SV40 late polyadenylation signal, an SV40 polyadenylation signal, a bovine growth hormone (BGH) polyadenylation signal, nopaline synthase (nos), cauliflower mosaic virus (CaMV), octopine synthase (ocs), Agrocateum, viral, and plant terminator sequences, or the like.

The terms "3' non-coding sequences" or "3' untranslated region (UTR)" refer to DNA 20 sequences located downstream (3') of a coding sequence and may comprise polyadenylation [poly(A)] recognition sequences and other sequences encoding regulatory signals capable of affecting mRNA processing or gene expression. The polyadenylation signal is usually characterized by affecting the addition of polyadenylic acid tracts to the 3' end of the mRNA precursor.

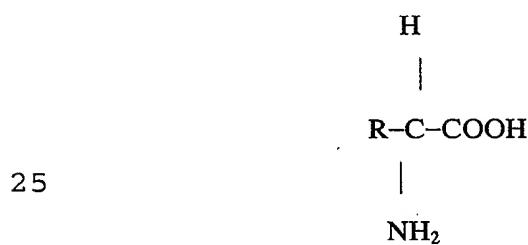
25 "Regulatory region" means a nucleic acid sequence which regulates the expression of a second nucleic acid sequence. A regulatory region may include sequences which are naturally responsible for expressing a particular nucleic acid (a homologous region) or may include sequences of a different origin that are responsible for expressing different proteins or even synthetic proteins (a heterologous region). In particular, the sequences can be sequences of 30 prokaryotic, eukaryotic, or viral genes or derived sequences that stimulate or repress transcription of a gene in a specific or non-specific manner and in an inducible or non-inducible manner. Regulatory regions include origins of replication, RNA splice sites, promoters, enhancers, transcriptional termination sequences, and signal sequences which direct the

polypeptide into the secretory pathways of the target cell.

A regulatory region from a "heterologous source" is a regulatory region that is not naturally associated with the expressed nucleic acid. Included among the heterologous regulatory regions are regulatory regions from a different species, regulatory regions from a 5 different gene, hybrid regulatory sequences, and regulatory sequences which do not occur in nature, but which are designed by one having ordinary skill in the art.

"RNA transcript" refers to the product resulting from RNA polymerase-catalyzed transcription of a DNA sequence. When the RNA transcript is a perfect complementary copy of the DNA sequence, it is referred to as the primary transcript or it may be a RNA sequence 10 derived from post-transcriptional processing of the primary transcript and is referred to as the mature RNA. "Messenger RNA (mRNA)" refers to the RNA that is without introns and that can be translated into protein by the cell. "cDNA" refers to a double-stranded DNA that is complementary to and derived from mRNA. "Sense" RNA refers to RNA transcript that includes the mRNA and so can be translated into protein by the cell. "Antisense RNA" refers 15 to a RNA transcript that is complementary to all or part of a target primary transcript or mRNA and that blocks the expression of a target gene. The complementarity of an antisense RNA may be with any part of the specific gene transcript, i.e., at the 5' non-coding sequence, 3' non-coding sequence, or the coding sequence. "Functional RNA" refers to antisense RNA, ribozyme RNA, or other RNA that is not translated yet has an effect on cellular processes.

20 A "polypeptide" is a polymeric compound comprised of covalently linked amino acid residues. Amino acids have the following general structure:



25 Amino acids are classified into seven groups on the basis of the side chain R: (1) aliphatic side chains, (2) side chains containing a hydroxyl (OH) group, (3) side chains containing sulfur atoms, (4) side chains containing an acidic or amide group, (5) side chains containing a basic 30 group, (6) side chains containing an aromatic ring, and (7) proline, an imino acid in which the side chain is fused to the amino group. A polypeptide of the invention preferably comprises at least about 14 amino acids.

A "protein" is a polypeptide that performs a structural or functional role in a living

cell.

An "isolated polypeptide" or "isolated protein" is a polypeptide or protein that is substantially free of those compounds that are normally associated therewith in its natural state (e.g., other proteins or polypeptides, nucleic acids, carbohydrates, lipids). "Isolated" is not 5 meant to exclude artificial or synthetic mixtures with other compounds, or the presence of impurities which do not interfere with biological activity, and which may be present, for example, due to incomplete purification, addition of stabilizers, or compounding into a pharmaceutically acceptable preparation.

"Fragment" of a polypeptide according to the invention will be understood to mean a 10 polypeptide whose amino acid sequence is shorter than that of the reference polypeptide and which comprises, over the entire portion with these reference polypeptides, an identical amino acid sequence. Such fragments may, where appropriate, be included in a larger polypeptide of which they are a part. Such fragments of a polypeptide according to the invention may have a length of 10, 15, 20, 30 to 40, 50, 100, 200 or 300 amino acids.

15 A "variant" of a polypeptide or protein is any analogue, fragment, derivative, or mutant which is derived from a polypeptide or protein and which retains at least one biological property of the polypeptide or protein. Different variants of the polypeptide or protein may exist in nature. These variants may be allelic variations characterized by differences in the nucleotide sequences of the structural gene coding for the protein, or may involve differential 20 splicing or post-translational modification. The skilled artisan can produce variants having single or multiple amino acid substitutions, deletions, additions, or replacements. These variants may include, *inter alia*: (a) variants in which one or more amino acid residues are substituted with conservative or non-conservative amino acids, (b) variants in which one or more amino acids are added to the polypeptide or protein, (c) variants in which one or more of 25 the amino acids includes a substituent group, and (d) variants in which the polypeptide or protein is fused with another polypeptide such as serum albumin. The techniques for obtaining these variants, including genetic (suppressions, deletions, mutations, etc.), chemical, and enzymatic techniques, are known to persons having ordinary skill in the art. A variant polypeptide preferably comprises at least about 14 amino acids.

30 A "heterologous protein" refers to a protein not naturally produced in the cell.

A "mature protein" refers to a post-translationally processed polypeptide; i.e., one from which any pre- or propeptides present in the primary translation product have been removed. "Precursor" protein refers to the primary product of translation of mRNA; i.e., with

pre- and propeptides still present. Pre- and propeptides may be but are not limited to intracellular localization signals.

The term "signal peptide" refers to an amino terminal polypeptide preceding the secreted mature protein. The signal peptide is cleaved from and is therefore not present in the 5 mature protein. Signal peptides have the function of directing and translocating secreted proteins across cell membranes. Signal peptide is also referred to as signal protein.

A "signal sequence" is included at the beginning of the coding sequence of a protein to be expressed on the surface of a cell. This sequence encodes a signal peptide, N-terminal to the mature polypeptide, that directs the host cell to translocate the polypeptide. The term

10 "translocation signal sequence" is used herein to refer to this sort of signal sequence.

Translocation signal sequences can be found associated with a variety of proteins native to eukaryotes and prokaryotes, and are often functional in both types of organisms.

The term "homology" refers to the percent of identity between two polynucleotide or two polypeptide moieties. The correspondence between the sequence from one moiety to

15 another can be determined by techniques known to the art. For example, homology can be determined by a direct comparison of the sequence information between two polypeptide molecules by aligning the sequence information and using readily available computer programs. Alternatively, homology can be determined by hybridization of polynucleotides under conditions that form stable duplexes between homologous regions, followed by digestion 20 with single-stranded-specific nuclease(s) and size determination of the digested fragments.

As used herein, the term "homologous" in all its grammatical forms and spelling variations refers to the relationship between proteins that possess a "common evolutionary origin," including proteins from superfamilies (e.g., the immunoglobulin superfamily) and homologous proteins from different species (e.g., myosin light chain, etc.) (Reeck et al., 1987,

25 Cell 50:667.). Such proteins (and their encoding genes) have sequence homology, as reflected by their high degree of sequence similarity.

Accordingly, the term "sequence similarity" in all its grammatical forms refers to the degree of identity or correspondence between nucleic acid or amino acid sequences of proteins that may or may not share a common evolutionary origin (see Reeck et al., 1987, Cell 50:667).

30 As used herein, the term "homologous" in all its grammatical forms and spelling variations refers to the relationship between proteins that possess a "common evolutionary origin," including proteins from superfamilies and homologous proteins from different species (Reeck et al., *supra*). Such proteins (and their encoding genes) have sequence homology, as reflected by

their high degree of sequence similarity. However, in common usage and in the instant application, the term "homologous," when modified with an adverb such as "highly," may refer to sequence similarity and not a common evolutionary origin.

In a specific embodiment, two DNA sequences are "substantially homologous" or 5 "substantially similar" when at least about 50% (preferably at least about 75%, and most preferably at least about 90 or 95%) of the nucleotides match over the defined length of the DNA sequences. Sequences that are substantially homologous can be identified by comparing the sequences using standard software available in sequence data banks, or in a Southern hybridization experiment under, for example, stringent conditions as defined for that particular 10 system. Defining appropriate hybridization conditions is within the skill of the art. See, e.g., Sambrook *et al.*, 1989, *supra*.

As used herein, "substantially similar" refers to nucleic acid fragments wherein changes in one or more nucleotide bases results in substitution of one or more amino acids, but do not affect the functional properties of the protein encoded by the DNA sequence.

15 "Substantially similar" also refers to nucleic acid fragments wherein changes in one or more nucleotide bases does not affect the ability of the nucleic acid fragment to mediate alteration of gene expression by antisense or co-suppression technology. "Substantially similar" also refers to modifications of the nucleic acid fragments of the instant invention such as deletion or insertion of one or more nucleotide bases that do not substantially affect the functional 20 properties of the resulting transcript. It is therefore understood that the invention encompasses more than the specific exemplary sequences. Each of the proposed modifications is well within the routine skill in the art, as is determination of retention of biological activity of the encoded products.

Moreover, the skilled artisan recognizes that substantially similar sequences 25 encompassed by this invention are also defined by their ability to hybridize, under stringent conditions (0.1X SSC, 0.1% SDS, 65°C and washed with 2X SSC, 0.1% SDS followed by 0.1X SSC, 0.1% SDS), with the sequences exemplified herein. Substantially similar nucleic acid fragments of the instant invention are those nucleic acid fragments whose DNA sequences are at least 70% identical to the DNA sequence of the nucleic acid fragments reported herein. 30 Preferred substantially nucleic acid fragments of the instant invention are those nucleic acid fragments whose DNA sequences are at least 80% identical to the DNA sequence of the nucleic acid fragments reported herein. More preferred nucleic acid fragments are at least 90% identical to the DNA sequence of the nucleic acid fragments reported herein. Even more

preferred are nucleic acid fragments that are at least 95% identical to the DNA sequence of the nucleic acid fragments reported herein.

Two amino acid sequences are "substantially homologous" or "substantially similar" when greater than about 40% of the amino acids are identical, or greater than 60% are similar 5 (functionally identical). Preferably, the similar or homologous sequences are identified by alignment using, for example, the GCG (Genetics Computer Group, Program Manual for the GCG Package, *Version 7*, Madison, Wisconsin) pileup program.

The term "corresponding to" is used herein to refer to similar or homologous sequences, whether the exact position is identical or different from the molecule to which the 10 similarity or homology is measured. A nucleic acid or amino acid sequence alignment may include spaces. Thus, the term "corresponding to" refers to the sequence similarity, and not the numbering of the amino acid residues or nucleotide bases.

A "substantial portion" of an amino acid or nucleotide sequence comprises enough of the amino acid sequence of a polypeptide or the nucleotide sequence of a gene to putatively 15 identify that polypeptide or gene, either by manual evaluation of the sequence by one skilled in the art, or by computer-automated sequence comparison and identification using algorithms such as BLAST (Basic Local Alignment Search Tool; Altschul, S. F., et al., (1993) *J. Mol. Biol.* 215:403-410; see also [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/BLAST/](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/BLAST/)). In general, a sequence of ten or more contiguous amino acids or thirty or more nucleotides is necessary in order to putatively 20 identify a polypeptide or nucleic acid sequence as homologous to a known protein or gene.

Moreover, with respect to nucleotide sequences, gene specific oligonucleotide probes comprising 20-30 contiguous nucleotides may be used in sequence-dependent methods of gene identification (e.g., Southern hybridization) and isolation (e.g., *in situ* hybridization of bacterial colonies or bacteriophage plaques). In addition, short oligonucleotides of 12-15 bases may be 25 used as amplification primers in PCR in order to obtain a particular nucleic acid fragment comprising the primers. Accordingly, a "substantial portion" of a nucleotide sequence comprises enough of the sequence to specifically identify and/or isolate a nucleic acid fragment comprising the sequence.

The term "percent identity", as known in the art, is a relationship between two or more 30 polypeptide sequences or two or more polynucleotide sequences, as determined by comparing the sequences. In the art, "identity" also means the degree of sequence relatedness between polypeptide or polynucleotide sequences, as the case may be, as determined by the match between strings of such sequences. "Identity" and "similarity" can be readily calculated by

known methods, including but not limited to those described in: *Computational Molecular Biology* (Lesk, A. M., ed.) Oxford University Press, New York (1988); *Biocomputing: Informatics and Genome Projects* (Smith, D. W., ed.) Academic Press, New York (1993); *Computer Analysis of Sequence Data, Part I* (Griffin, A. M., and Griffin, H. G., eds.) 5 Humana Press, New Jersey (1994); *Sequence Analysis in Molecular Biology* (von Heinje, G., ed.) Academic Press (1987); and *Sequence Analysis Primer* (Gribskov, M. and Devereux, J., eds.) Stockton Press, New York (1991). Preferred methods to determine identity are designed to give the best match between the sequences tested. Methods to determine identity and 10 similarity are codified in publicly available computer programs. Sequence alignments and percent identity calculations may be performed using the Megalign program of the LASERGENE bioinformatics computing suite (DNASTAR Inc., Madison, WI). Multiple alignment of the sequences may be performed using the Clustal method of alignment (Higgins and Sharp (1989) *CABIOS*. 5:151-153) with the default parameters (GAP PENALTY=10, 15 GAP LENGTH PENALTY=10). Default parameters for pairwise alignments using the Clustal method may be selected: KTUPLE 1, GAP PENALTY=3, WINDOW=5 and DIAGONALS SAVED=5.

The term "sequence analysis software" refers to any computer algorithm or software program that is useful for the analysis of nucleotide or amino acid sequences. "Sequence analysis software" may be commercially available or independently developed. Typical 20 sequence analysis software will include but is not limited to the GCG suite of programs (Wisconsin Package Version 9.0, Genetics Computer Group (GCG), Madison, WI), BLASTP, BLASTN, BLASTX (Altschul et al., *J. Mol. Biol.* 215:403-410 (1990), and DNASTAR (DNASTAR, Inc. 1228 S. Park St. Madison, WI 53715 USA). Within the context of this application it will be understood that where sequence analysis software is used for analysis, 25 that the results of the analysis will be based on the "default values" of the program referenced, unless otherwise specified. As used herein "default values" will mean any set of values or parameters which originally load with the software when first initialized.

"Synthetic genes" can be assembled from oligonucleotide building blocks that are chemically synthesized using procedures known to those skilled in the art. These building 30 blocks are ligated and annealed to form gene segments that are then enzymatically assembled to construct the entire gene. "Chemically synthesized", as related to a sequence of DNA, means that the component nucleotides were assembled *in vitro*. Manual chemical synthesis of DNA may be accomplished using well established procedures, or automated chemical synthesis can

be performed using one of a number of commercially available machines. Accordingly, the genes can be tailored for optimal gene expression based on optimization of nucleotide sequence to reflect the codon bias of the host cell. The skilled artisan appreciates the likelihood of successful gene expression if codon usage is biased towards those codons favored by the host.

- 5 Determination of preferred codons can be based on a survey of genes derived from the host cell where sequence information is available.

#### GENE EXPRESSION MODULATION SYSTEM OF THE INVENTION

Applicants have now shown that separating the transactivation and DNA binding domains by placing them on two different proteins results in greatly reduced background activity in the absence of a ligand and significantly increased activity over background in the presence of a ligand. Applicants' improved gene expression system comprises two chimeric gene expression; the first encoding a DNA binding domain fused to a nuclear receptor polypeptide and the second encoding a transactivation domain fused to a nuclear receptor polypeptide. The interaction of the first protein with the second protein effectively tethers the DNA binding domain to the transactivation domain. Since the DNA binding and transactivation domains reside on two different molecules, the background activity in the absence of ligand is greatly reduced.

In general, the inducible gene expression modulation system of the invention comprises

- 20 a) a first chimeric gene that is capable of being expressed in a host cell comprising a polynucleotide sequence that encodes a first hybrid polypeptide comprising i) a DNA-binding domain that recognizes a response element associated with a gene whose expression is to be modulated; and ii) a ligand binding domain comprising the ligand binding domain from a nuclear receptor; and b) a second chimeric gene that is capable of being expressed in the host
- 25 cell comprising a polynucleotide sequence that encodes a second hybrid polypeptide comprising: i) a transactivation domain; and ii) a ligand binding domain comprising the ligand binding domain from a nuclear receptor other than ultraspiracle (USP); wherein the transactivation domain are from other than EcR, RXR, or USP; and wherein the ligand binding domains from the first hybrid polypeptide and the second hybrid polypeptide are different and
- 30 dimerize.

This two-hybrid system exploits the ability of a pair of interacting proteins to bring the transcription activation domain into a more favorable position relative to the DNA binding domain such that when the DNA binding domain binds to the DNA binding site on the gene,

the transactivation domain more effectively activates the promoter (see, for example, U.S. Patent No. 5,283,173). This two-hybrid system is a significantly improved inducible gene expression modulation system compared to the two systems disclosed in International Patent Applications PCT/US97/05330 and PCT/US98/14215.

5 The ecdysone receptor-based gene expression modulation system of the invention may be either heterodimeric and homodimeric. A functional EcR complex generally refers to a heterodimeric protein complex consisting of two members of the steroid receptor family, an ecdysone receptor protein obtained from various insects, and an ultraspiracle (USP) protein or the vertebrate homolog of USP, retinoid X receptor protein (see Yao, et al. (1993) *Nature* 366, 10 476-479; Yao, et al., (1992) *Cell* 71, 63-72). However, the complex may also be a homodimer as detailed below. The functional ecdysteroid receptor complex may also include additional protein(s) such as immunophilins. Additional members of the steroid receptor family of proteins, known as transcriptional factors (such as DHR38 or *betaFTZ-1*), may also be ligand dependent or independent partners for EcR, USP, and/or RXR. Additionally, other cofactors 15 may be required such as proteins generally known as coactivators (also termed adapters or mediators). These proteins do not bind sequence-specifically to DNA and are not involved in basal transcription. They may exert their effect on transcription activation through various mechanisms, including stimulation of DNA-binding of activators, by affecting chromatin structure, or by mediating activator-initiation complex interactions. Examples of such 20 coactivators include RIP140, TIF1, RAP46/Bag-1, ARA70, SRC-1/NCoA-1, TIF2/GRIP/NCoA-2, ACTR/AIB1/RAC3/pCIP as well as the promiscuous coactivator C response element B binding protein, CBP/p300 (for review see Glass et al, *Curr. Opin. Cell Biol.* 9:222-232, 1997). Also, protein cofactors generally known as corepressors (also known 25 as repressors, silencers, or silencing mediators) may be required to effectively inhibit transcriptional activation in the absence of ligand. These corepressors may interact with the unliganded ecdysone receptor to silence the activity at the response element. Current evidence suggests that binding of ligand changes the conformation of the receptor, which results in release of the corepressor and recruitment of the above described coactivators, thereby 30 abolishing their silencing activity. Examples of corepressors include N-CoR and SMRT (for review, see Horwitz et al. *Mol Endocrinol.* 10: 1167-1177, 1996). These cofactors may either be endogenous within the cell or organism, or may be added exogenously as transgenes to be expressed in either a regulated or unregulated fashion. Homodimer complexes of the ecdysone receptor protein, USP, or RXR may also be functional under some circumstances.

The ecdysone receptor complex typically includes proteins which are members of the nuclear receptor superfamily wherein all members are characterized by the presence of an amino-terminal transactivation domain, a DNA binding domain ("DBD"), and a ligand binding domain ("LBD") separated from the DBD by a hinge region. As used herein, the term "DNA binding domain" comprises a minimal peptide sequence of a DNA binding protein, up to the entire length of a DNA binding protein, so long as the DNA binding domain functions to associate with a particular response element. Members of the nuclear receptor superfamily are also characterized by the presence of four or five domains: A/B, C, D, E, and in some members F (see Evans, *Science* 240:889-895 (1988)). The "A/B" domain corresponds to the transactivation domain, "C" corresponds to the DNA binding domain, "D" corresponds to the hinge region, and "E" corresponds to the ligand binding domain. Some members of the family may also have another transactivation domain on the carboxy-terminal side of the LBD corresponding to "F".

The DBD is characterized by the presence of two cysteine zinc fingers between which are two amino acid motifs, the P-box and the D-box, which confer specificity for ecdysone response elements. These domains may be either native, modified, or chimeras of different domains of heterologous receptor proteins. This EcR receptor, like a subset of the steroid receptor family, also possesses less well defined regions responsible for heterodimerization properties. Because the domains of EcR, USP, and RXR are modular in nature, the LBD, DBD, and transactivation domains may be interchanged.

Gene switch systems are known that incorporate components from the ecdysone receptor complex. However, in these known systems, whenever EcR is used it is associated with native or modified DNA binding domains and transactivation domains on the same molecule. USP or RXR are typically used as silent partners. We have now shown that when DNA binding domains and transactivation domains are on the same molecule the background activity in the absence of ligand is high and that such activity is dramatically reduced when DNA binding domains and transactivation domains are on different molecules, that is, on each of two partners of a heterodimeric or homodimeric complex. This two-hybrid system also provides improved sensitivity to non-steroidal ligands for example, diacylhydrazines, when compared to steroid ligands for example, ponasterone A ("PonA") or muristerone A ("MurA"). That is, when compared to steroids, the non-steroidal ligands provide higher activity at a lower concentration. In addition, since transactivation based on EcR gene switches is often cell-line dependent, it is easier to tailor switching system to obtain maximum

transactivation capability for each application. Furthermore, this two-hybrid system avoids some side effects due to overexpression of RXR that often occur when unmodified RXR is used as a switching partner. In this two-hybrid system, native DNA binding and transactivation domains of EcR or RXR are eliminated. As a result, these chimeric molecules 5 have less chance of interacting with other steroid hormone receptors present in the cell resulting in reduced side effects.

Specifically, Applicants' invention relates to a gene expression modulation system comprising: a) a first gene expression cassette that is capable of being expressed in a host cell, wherein the first gene expression cassette comprises a polynucleotide that encodes a first 10 polypeptide comprising i) a DNA-binding domain that recognizes a response element associated with a gene whose expression is to be modulated; and ii) a ligand binding domain comprising a ligand binding domain from a nuclear receptor; and b) a second gene expression cassette that is capable of being expressed in the host cell, wherein the second gene expression cassette comprises a polynucleotide sequence that encodes a second polypeptide comprising i) a 15 transactivation domain; and ii) a ligand binding domain comprising a ligand binding domain from a nuclear receptor other than ultraspiracle (USP); wherein the DNA binding domain and the transactivation domain are from other than EcR, RXR, or USP; wherein the ligand binding domains from the first polypeptide and the second polypeptide are different and dimerize.

The present invention also relates to a gene expression modulation system according to 20 the present invention further comprising c) a third gene expression cassette comprising: i) the response element to which the DNA-binding domain of the first polypeptide binds; ii) a promoter that is activated by the transactivation domain of the second polypeptide; and iii) the gene whose expression is to be modulated.

In a specific embodiment, the gene whose expression is to be modulated is a 25 homologous gene with respect to the host cell. In another specific embodiment, the gene whose expression is to be modulated is a heterologous gene with respect to the host cell.

In a specific embodiment, the ligand binding domain of the first polypeptide comprises an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain.

In another specific embodiment, the ligand binding domain of the first polypeptide 30 comprises a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain.

In a specific embodiment, the ligand binding domain of the second polypeptide comprises an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain.

In another specific embodiment, the ligand binding domain of the second polypeptide

comprises a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain.

In a preferred embodiment, the ligand binding domain of the first polypeptide comprises an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain, and the ligand binding domain of the second polypeptide comprises a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain.

5 In another preferred embodiment, the ligand binding domain of the first polypeptide is from a retinoid X receptor polypeptide, and the ligand binding domain of the second polypeptide is from an ecdysone receptor polypeptide.

Preferably, the ligand binding domain is an EcR or RXR related steroid/thyroid hormone nuclear receptor family member ligand binding domain, or analogs, combinations, or 10 modifications thereof. More preferably, the LBD is from EcR or RXR. Even more preferably, the LBD is from a truncated EcR or RXR. A truncation mutation may be made by any method used in the art, including but not limited to restriction endonuclease digestion/deletion, PCR-mediated/oligonucleotide-directed deletion, chemical mutagenesis, UV strand breakage, and the like.

15 Preferably, the EcR is an insect EcR selected from the group consisting of a Lepidopteran EcR, a Dipteran EcR, an Arthropod EcR, a Homopteran EcR and a Hemipteran EcR. More preferably, the EcR for use is a spruce budworm *Choristoneura fumiferana* EcR ("CfEcR"), a *Tenebrio molitor* EcR ("TmEcR"), a *Manduca sexta* EcR ("MsEcR"), a *Heliothis virescens* EcR ("HvEcR"), a silk moth *Bombyx mori* EcR ("BmEcR"), a fruit fly 20 *Drosophila melanogaster* EcR ("DmEcR"), a mosquito *Aedes aegypti* EcR ("AaEcR"), a blowfly *Lucilia capitata* EcR ("LcEcR"), a Mediterranean fruit fly *Ceratitis capitata* EcR ("CcEcR"), a locust *Locusta migratoria* EcR ("LmEcR"), an aphid *Myzus persicae* EcR ("MpEcR"), a fiddler crab *Uca pugilator* EcR ("UpEcR"), or an ixodid tick *Amblyomma americanum* EcR ("AmaEcR"). Even more preferably, the LBD is from spruce budworm 25 (*Choristoneura fumiferana*) EcR ("CfEcR") or fruit fly *Drosophila melanogaster* EcR ("DmEcR").

30 Preferably, the LBD is from a truncated insect EcR. The insect EcR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 150, 155, 160, 165, 170, 175, 180, 185, 190, 195, 200, 205, 210, 215, 220, 225, 230, 235, 240, 245, 250, 255, 260, or 265 amino acids. More preferably, the insect EcR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least a partial polypeptide domain. Even more preferably, the insect EcR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least an entire polypeptide domain. In a

specific embodiment, the insect EcR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least an A/B-domain deletion, a C-domain deletion, a D-domain deletion, an E-domain deletion, an F-domain deletion, an A/B/C-domains deletion, an A/B/1/2-C-domains deletion, an A/B/C/D-domains deletion, an A/B/C/D/F-domains deletion, an A/B/F-domains, and an A/B/C/F-domains deletion. A combination of several complete and/or partial domain deletions may also be performed.

In a preferred embodiment, the ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 10.

In another preferred embodiment, the ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain comprises a polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, and SEQ ID NO: 20.

Preferably, the RXR polypeptide is a mouse *Mus musculus* RXR ("MmRXR") or a human *Homo sapiens* RXR ("HsRXR"). The RXR polypeptide may be an RXR<sub>α</sub>, RXR<sub>β</sub>, or RXR<sub>γ</sub> isoform.

Preferably, the LBD is from a truncated RXR. The RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 150, 155, 160, 165, 170, 175, 180, 185, 190, 195, 200, 205, 210, 215, 220, 225, 230, 235, 240, 245, 250, 255, 260, or 265 amino acids. More preferably, the RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least a partial polypeptide domain. Even more preferably, the RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least an entire polypeptide domain. In a specific embodiment, the RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least an A/B-domain deletion, a C-domain deletion, a D-domain deletion, an E-domain deletion, an F-domain deletion, an A/B/C-domains deletion, an A/B/1/2-C-domains deletion, an A/B/C/D-domains deletion, an A/B/C/D/F-domains deletion, an A/B/F-domains, and an A/B/C/F-domains deletion. A combination of several complete and/or partial domain deletions may also be performed.

In a preferred embodiment, the retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ

ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 29, and SEQ ID NO: 30.

In another preferred embodiment, the retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain comprises a polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 37, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 39, and SEQ ID NO: 40.

For purposes of this invention EcR and RXR also include synthetic and chimeric EcR and RXR and their homologs.

The DNA binding domain can be any DNA binding domain with a known response element, including synthetic and chimeric DNA binding domains, or analogs, combinations, or modifications thereof. Preferably, the DBD is a GAL4 DBD, a LexA DBD, a transcription factor DBD, a steroid/thyroid hormone nuclear receptor superfamily member DBD, a bacterial LacZ DBD, or a yeast put DBD. More preferably, the DBD is a GAL4 DBD [SEQ ID NO: 41 (polynucleotide) or SEQ ID NO: 42 (polypeptide)] or a LexA DBD [(SEQ ID NO: 43 (polynucleotide) or SEQ ID NO: 44 (polypeptide)].

The transactivation domain (abbreviated "AD" or "TA") may be any steroid/thyroid hormone nuclear receptor AD, synthetic or chimeric AD, polyglutamine AD, basic or acidic amino acid AD, a VP16 AD, a GAL4 AD, an NF- $\kappa$ B AD, a BP64 AD, or an analog, combination, or modification thereof. Preferably, the AD is a synthetic or chimeric AD, or is obtained from a VP16, GAL4, or NF- $\kappa$ B. Most preferably, the AD is a VP16 AD [SEQ ID NO: 45 (polynucleotide) or SEQ ID NO: 46 (polypeptide)].

The response element ("RE") may be any response element with a known DNA binding domain, or an analog, combination, or modification thereof. Preferably, the RE is an RE from GAL4 ("GAL4RE"), LexA, a steroid/thyroid hormone nuclear receptor RE, or a synthetic RE that recognizes a synthetic DNA binding domain. More preferably, the RE is a 25 GAL4RE comprising a polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 47 or a LexA 8X operon comprising a polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 48. Preferably, the first hybrid protein is substantially free of a transactivation domain and the second hybrid protein is substantially free of a DNA binding domain. For purposes of this invention, "substantially free" means that the protein in question does not contain a sufficient sequence of the domain in question to 30 provide activation or binding activity.

The ligands for use in the present invention as described below, when combined with the ligand binding domain of an EcR, USP, RXR, or another polypeptide which in turn are bound to the response element linked to a gene, provide the means for external temporal

regulation of expression of the gene. The binding mechanism or the order in which the various components of this invention bind to each other, that is, ligand to receptor, first polypeptide to response element, second polypeptide to promoter, etc., is not critical. Binding of the ligand to the ligand binding domains of an EcR, USP, RXR, or another protein, enables expression or suppression of the gene. This mechanism does not exclude the potential for ligand binding to EcR, USP, or RXR, and the resulting formation of active homodimer complexes (e.g. EcR+EcR or USP+USP). Preferably, one or more of the receptor domains can be varied producing a chimeric gene switch. Typically, one or more of the three domains, DBD, LBD, and transactivation domain, may be chosen from a source different than the source of the other domains so that the chimeric genes and the resulting hybrid proteins are optimized in the chosen host cell or organism for transactivating activity, complementary binding of the ligand, and recognition of a specific response element. In addition, the response element itself can be modified or substituted with response elements for other DNA binding protein domains such as the GAL-4 protein from yeast (see Sadowski, et al. (1988) *Nature*, 335:563-564) or LexA protein from *E. coli* (see Brent and Ptashne (1985), *Cell*, 43:729-736), or synthetic response elements specific for targeted interactions with proteins designed, modified, and selected for such specific interactions (see, for example, Kim, et al. (1997), *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA*, 94:3616-3620) to accommodate chimeric receptors. Another advantage of chimeric systems is that they allow choice of a promoter used to drive the gene expression according to a desired end result. Such double control can be particularly important in areas of gene therapy, especially when cytotoxic proteins are produced, because both the timing of expression as well as the cells wherein expression occurs can be controlled. When genes, operatively linked to a suitable promoter, are introduced into the cells of the subject, expression of the exogenous genes is controlled by the presence of the system of this invention. Promoters may be constitutively or inducibly regulated or may be tissue-specific (that is, expressed only in a particular type of cells) or specific to certain developmental stages of the organism.

#### GENE EXPRESSION CASSETTES OF THE INVENTION

The novel ecdysone receptor-based inducible gene expression system of the invention comprises a novel gene expression cassette that is capable of being expressed in a host cell, wherein the gene expression cassette comprises a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid polypeptide. Thus, Applicants' invention also provides novel gene expression cassettes for use in the gene expression system of the invention.

Specifically, the present invention provides a gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid polypeptide. The hybrid polypeptide comprises either 1) a DNA-binding domain that recognizes a response element and a ligand binding domain of a nuclear receptor or 2) a transactivation domain and a ligand binding domain of a nuclear receptor, wherein the transactivation domain is from a nuclear receptor other than an EcR, an RXR, or a USP.

In a specific embodiment, the gene expression cassette encodes a hybrid polypeptide comprising a DNA-binding domain that recognizes a response element and an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain, wherein the DNA binding domain is from a nuclear receptor other than an ecdysone receptor.

In another specific embodiment, the gene expression cassette encodes a hybrid polypeptide comprising a DNA-binding domain that recognizes a response element and a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain, wherein the DNA binding domain is from a nuclear receptor other than a retinoid X receptor.

The DNA binding domain can be any DNA binding domain with a known response element, including synthetic and chimeric DNA binding domains, or analogs, combinations, or modifications thereof. Preferably, the DBD is a GAL4 DBD, a LexA DBD, a transcription factor DBD, a steroid/thyroid hormone nuclear receptor superfamily member DBD, a bacterial LacZ DBD, or a yeast put DBD. More preferably, the DBD is a GAL4 DBD [SEQ ID NO: 41 (polynucleotide) or SEQ ID NO: 42 (polypeptide)] or a LexA DBD [(SEQ ID NO: 43 (polynucleotide) or SEQ ID NO: 44 (polypeptide)].

In another specific embodiment, the gene expression cassette encodes a hybrid polypeptide comprising a transactivation domain and an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain, wherein the transactivation domain is from a nuclear receptor other than an ecdysone receptor.

In another specific embodiment, the gene expression cassette encodes a hybrid polypeptide comprising a transactivation domain and a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain, wherein the transactivation domain is from a nuclear receptor other than a retinoid X receptor.

The transactivation domain (abbreviated "AD" or "TA") may be any steroid/thyroid hormone nuclear receptor AD, synthetic or chimeric AD, polyglutamine AD, basic or acidic amino acid AD, a VP16 AD, a GAL4 AD, an NF- $\kappa$ B AD, a BP64 AD, or an analog, combination, or modification thereof. Preferably, the AD is a synthetic or chimeric AD, or is

obtained from a VP16, GAL4, or NF- $\kappa$ B. Most preferably, the AD is a VP16 AD [SEQ ID NO: 45 (polynucleotide) or SEQ ID NO: 46 (polypeptide)].

Preferably, the ligand binding domain is an EcR or RXR related steroid/thyroid hormone nuclear receptor family member ligand binding domain, or analogs, combinations, or 5 modifications thereof. More preferably, the LBD is from EcR or RXR. Even more preferably, the LBD is from a truncated EcR or RXR.

Preferably, the EcR is an insect EcR selected from the group consisting of a Lepidopteran EcR, a Dipteran EcR, an Arthropod EcR, a Homopteran EcR and a Hemipteran EcR. More preferably, the EcR for use is a spruce budworm *Choristoneura fumiferana* EcR 10 ("CfEcR"), a *Tenebrio molitor* EcR ("TmEcR"), a *Manduca sexta* EcR ("MsEcR"), a *Heliothis virescens* EcR ("HvEcR"), a silk moth *Bombyx mori* EcR ("BmEcR"), a fruit fly *Drosophila melanogaster* EcR ("DmEcR"), a mosquito *Aedes aegypti* EcR ("AaEcR"), a blowfly *Lucilia capitata* EcR ("LcEcR"), a Mediterranean fruit fly *Ceratitis capitata* EcR ("CcEcR"), a locust *Locusta migratoria* EcR ("LmEcR"), an aphid *Myzus persicae* EcR 15 ("MpEcR"), a fiddler crab *Uca pugilator* EcR ("UpEcR"), or an ixodid tick *Amblyomma americanum* EcR ("AmaEcR"). Even more preferably, the LBD is from spruce budworm (*Choristoneura fumiferana*) EcR ("CfEcR") or fruit fly *Drosophila melanogaster* EcR ("DmEcR").

Preferably, the LBD is from a truncated insect EcR. The insect EcR polypeptide 20 truncation comprises a deletion of at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 150, 155, 160, 165, 170, 175, 180, 185, 190, 195, 200, 205, 210, 215, 220, 225, 230, 235, 240, 245, 250, 255, 260, or 265 amino acids. More preferably, the insect EcR polypeptide truncation 25 comprises a deletion of at least a partial polypeptide domain. Even more preferably, the insect EcR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least an entire polypeptide domain. In a specific embodiment, the insect EcR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least an A/B-domain deletion, a C-domain deletion, a D-domain deletion, an E-domain deletion, an F-domain deletion, an A/B/C-domains deletion, an A/B/1/2-C-domains deletion, an A/B/C/D-domains deletion, an A/B/C/D/F-domains deletion, an A/B/F-domains, and an A/B/C/F-domains deletion. A combination of several complete and/or partial domain deletions may also 30 be performed.

In a preferred embodiment, the ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ

ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 10.

In another preferred embodiment, the ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, and SEQ ID NO: 20.

Preferably, the RXR polypeptide is a mouse *Mus musculus* RXR ("MmRXR") or a human *Homo sapiens* RXR ("HsRXR"). The RXR polypeptide may be an RXR<sub>α</sub>, RXR<sub>β</sub>, or RXR<sub>γ</sub> isoform.

10 Preferably, the LBD is from a truncated RXR. The RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 150, 155, 160, 165, 170, 175, 180, 185, 190, 195, 200, 205, 210, 215, 220, 225, 230, 235, 240, 245, 250, 255, 260, or 265 amino acids. More preferably, the RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a 15 deletion of at least a partial polypeptide domain. Even more preferably, the RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least an entire polypeptide domain. In a specific embodiment, the RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least an A/B-domain deletion, a C-domain deletion, a D-domain deletion, an E-domain deletion, an F-domain deletion, an A/B/C-domains deletion, an A/B/1/2-C-domains deletion, an A/B/C/D-domains 20 deletion, an A/B/C/D/F-domains deletion, an A/B/F-domains, and an A/B/C/F-domains deletion. A combination of several complete and/or partial domain deletions may also be performed.

In a preferred embodiment, the retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 29, and SEQ ID NO: 30.

In another preferred embodiment, the retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 37, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 39, and SEQ ID NO: 40.

In a preferred embodiment, the gene expression cassette encodes a hybrid polypeptide comprising a DNA-binding domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of a GAL4 DBD (SEQ ID NO: 41) or a LexA

DBD (SEQ ID NO: 43) and an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 10.

5 In another preferred embodiment, the gene expression cassette encodes a hybrid polypeptide comprising a DNA-binding domain comprising a polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of a GAL4 DBD (SEQ ID NO: 42) or a LexA DBD (SEQ ID NO: 44) and an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ  
10 ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, and SEQ ID NO: 20.

In another preferred embodiment, the gene expression cassette encodes a hybrid polypeptide comprising a DNA-binding domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of a GAL4 DBD (SEQ ID NO: 41) or  
15 a LexA DBD (SEQ ID NO: 43) and a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 29, and SEQ ID NO: 30.

In another preferred embodiment, the gene expression cassette encodes a hybrid  
20 polypeptide comprising a DNA-binding domain comprising a polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of a GAL4 DBD (SEQ ID NO: 42) or a LexA DBD (SEQ ID NO: 44) and a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 37, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID  
25 NO: 39, and SEQ ID NO: 40.

In another preferred embodiment, the gene expression cassette encodes a hybrid polypeptide comprising a transactivation domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 and an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group  
30 consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 10.

In another preferred embodiment, the gene expression cassette encodes a hybrid polypeptide comprising a transactivation domain comprising a polypeptide sequence of SEQ

ID NO: 46 and an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain comprising a polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, and SEQ ID NO: 20.

5 In another preferred embodiment, the gene expression cassette encodes a hybrid polypeptide comprising a transactivation domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 and a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 29, and SEQ ID NO: 30.

10 In another preferred embodiment, the gene expression cassette encodes a hybrid polypeptide comprising a transactivation domain comprising a polypeptide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 46 and a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 37, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 39, and SEQ ID NO: 40.

15 For purposes of this invention EcR and RXR also include synthetic and chimeric EcR and RXR and their homologs.

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#### POLYNUCLEOTIDES OF THE INVENTION

25 The novel ecdysone receptor-based inducible gene expression system of the invention comprises a gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide that encodes a truncated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation and is useful in methods of modulating the expression of a gene within a host cell.

Thus, the present invention also relates to a polynucleotide that encodes an EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation. Specifically, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding an EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that affects ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity.

30 Preferably, the truncation mutation results in a polynucleotide that encodes a truncated EcR polypeptide or a truncated RXR polypeptide comprising a deletion of at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 150, 155, 160, 165, 170, 175, 180, 185, 190, 195, 200, 205, 210,

215, 220, 225, 230, 235, 240, 245, 250, 255, 260, or 265 amino acids. More preferably, the EcR or RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least a partial polypeptide domain. Even more preferably, the EcR or RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least an entire polypeptide domain. In a specific embodiment, the EcR or RXR 5 polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least an A/B-domain deletion, a C-domain deletion, a D-domain deletion, an E-domain deletion, an F-domain deletion, an A/B/C-domains deletion, an A/B/1/2-C-domains deletion, an A/B/C/D-domains deletion, an A/B/C/D/F-domains deletion, an A/B/F-domains, and an A/B/C/F-domains deletion. A combination of several complete and/or partial domain deletions may also be performed.

10 In a specific embodiment, the EcR polynucleotide according to the invention comprises a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 10. In a specific embodiment, the polynucleotide according to the invention encodes a ecdysone receptor polypeptide comprising an amino acid 15 sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11 (CfEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 12 (CfEcR-1/2CDEF, which comprises the last 33 carboxy-terminal amino acids of C domain), SEQ ID NO: 13 (CfEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 14 (CfEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 15 (CfEcR-DE), SEQ ID NO: 16 (DmEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 17 (DmEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 18 (DmEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 19 (DmEcR-EF), and SEQ ID NO: 20 (DmEcR- 20 DE).

In another specific embodiment, the RXR polynucleotide according to the invention comprises a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 29, and SEQ ID NO: 30. In another specific 25 embodiment, the polynucleotide according to the invention encodes a truncated RXR polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO: 31 (MmRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 32 (MmRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 33 (MmRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 34 (MmRXR-truncatedEF), SEQ ID NO: 35 (MmRXR-E), SEQ ID NO: 36 (HsRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 37 (HsRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 38 (HsRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 39 (HsRXR- 30 truncated EF), and SEQ ID NO: 40 (HsRXR-E).

In particular, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding an EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation, wherein the mutation reduces ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a specific

embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding an EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a preferred embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding an EcR polypeptide comprising a 5 truncation mutation that reduces steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of the EcR polypeptide, wherein the polynucleotide comprises a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 (CfEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 4 (CfEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 8 (DmEcR-DEF), or SEQ ID NO: 9 (DmEcR-EF). In another specific embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding an EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that 10 reduces non-steroid binding activity or non-steroid sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a preferred embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding an EcR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces non-steroid binding activity or non-steroid sensitivity of the EcR polypeptide, wherein the polynucleotide comprises a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 (CfEcR-EF) or SEQ ID NO: 9 (DmEcR-EF). 15 The present invention also relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding an EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation, wherein the mutation enhances ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a specific embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding an EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of 20 the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In another specific embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding an EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances non-steroid binding activity or non-steroid sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a preferred embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding an EcR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances 25 non-steroid binding activity or non-steroid sensitivity of the EcR polypeptide, wherein the polynucleotide comprises a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 (CfEcR-DEF) or SEQ ID NO: 8 (DmEcR-DEF).

The present invention also relates to an isolated polynucleotide encoding a retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that increases ligand sensitivity of a 30 heterodimer comprising the mutated retinoid X receptor polypeptide and a dimerization partner. Preferably, the isolated polynucleotide encoding a retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that increases ligand sensitivity of a heterodimer comprises a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 23 (MmRXR-EF),

SEQ ID NO: 24 (MmRXR-truncatedEF), SEQ ID NO: 28 (HsRXR-EF), or SEQ ID NO: 29 (HsRXR-truncated EF). In a specific embodiment, the dimerization partner is an ecdysone receptor polypeptide. Preferably, the dimerization partner is a truncated EcR polypeptide. More preferably, the dimerization partner is an EcR polypeptide in which domains A/B/C have 5 been deleted. Even more preferably, the dimerization partner is an EcR polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13 (CfEcR-DEF) or SEQ ID NO: 18 (DmEcR-DEF).

#### POLYPEPTIDES OF THE INVENTION

The novel ecdysone receptor-based inducible gene expression system of the invention 10 comprises a polynucleotide that encodes a truncated EcR or RXR polypeptide and is useful in methods of modulating the expression of a gene within a host cell. Thus, the present invention also relates to an isolated truncated EcR or RXR polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide or a gene expression cassette according to the invention. Specifically, the present invention relates to an isolated truncated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that affects 15 ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity encoded by a polynucleotide according to the invention.

The present invention also relates to an isolated truncated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation. Specifically, the present invention relates to an isolated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that affects ligand binding activity or 20 ligand sensitivity.

Preferably, the truncation mutation results in a truncated EcR polypeptide or a truncated RXR polypeptide comprising a deletion of at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 105, 110, 115, 120, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 150, 155, 160, 165, 170, 175, 180, 185, 190, 195, 200, 205, 210, 215, 220, 225, 25 230, 235, 240, 245, 250, 255, 260, or 265 amino acids. More preferably, the EcR or RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least a partial polypeptide domain. Even more preferably, the EcR or RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least an entire polypeptide domain. In a specific embodiment, the EcR or RXR polypeptide truncation comprises a deletion of at least an A/B-domain deletion, a C-domain deletion, a D-domain 30 deletion, an E-domain deletion, an F-domain deletion, an A/B/C-domains deletion, an A/B/1/2-C-domains deletion, an A/B/C/D-domains deletion, an A/B/C/D/F-domains deletion, an A/B/F-domains, and an A/B/C/F-domains deletion. A combination of several complete and/or partial domain deletions may also be performed.

In a preferred embodiment, the isolated truncated ecdysone receptor polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 (CfEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 2 (CfEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 3 (CfEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 4 (CfEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 5 (CfEcR-DE), SEQ ID NO: 6 (DmEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 7 (DmEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 8 (DmEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 9 (DmEcR-EF), and SEQ ID NO: 10 (DmEcR-DE). In another preferred embodiment, the isolated truncated ecdysone receptor polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11 (CfEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 12 (CfEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 13 (CfEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 14 (CfEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 15 (CfEcR-DE), SEQ ID NO: 16 (DmEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 17 (DmEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 18 (DmEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 19 (DmEcR-EF), and SEQ ID NO: 20 (DmEcR-DE).

In a preferred embodiment, the isolated truncated RXR polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21 (MmRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 22 (MmRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 23 (MmRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 24 (MmRXR-truncatedEF), SEQ ID NO: 25 (MmRXR-E), SEQ ID NO: 26 (HsRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 27 (HsRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 28 (HsRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 29 (HsRXR-truncatedEF) and SEQ ID NO: 30 (HsRXR-E). In another preferred embodiment, the isolated truncated RXR polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 31 (MmRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 32 (MmRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 33 (MmRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 34 (MmRXR-truncatedEF), SEQ ID NO: 35 (MmRXR-E), SEQ ID NO: 36 (HsRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 37 (HsRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 38 (HsRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 39 (HsRXR-truncatedEF), and SEQ ID NO: 40 (HsRXR-E).

The present invention relates to an isolated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 (CfEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 2 (CfEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 3 (CfEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 4 (CfEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 5 (CfEcR-DE), SEQ ID NO: 6 (DmEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 7 (DmEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 8 (DmEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 9 (DmEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 10 (DmEcR-DE), SEQ ID NO: 21 (MmRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 22 (MmRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 23 (MmRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 24 (MmRXR-truncatedEF), SEQ ID NO: 25 (MmRXR-

E), SEQ ID NO: 26 (HsRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 27 (HsRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 28 (HsRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 29 (HsRXR-truncatedEF), and SEQ ID NO: 30 (HsRXR-E).

Thus, the present invention relates to an isolated truncated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11 (CfEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 12 (CfEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 13 (CfEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 14 (CfEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 15 (CfEcR-DE), SEQ ID NO: 16 (DmEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 17 (DmEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 18 (DmEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 19 (DmEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 20 (DmEcR-DE), SEQ ID NO: 31 (MmRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 32 (MmRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 33 (MmRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 34 (MmRXR-truncatedEF), SEQ ID NO: 35 (MmRXR-E), SEQ ID NO: 36 (HsRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 37 (HsRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 38 (HsRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 39 (HsRXR-truncatedEF), and SEQ ID NO: 40 (HsRXR-E).

In a specific embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a preferred embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated EcR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of the EcR polypeptide, wherein the EcR polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 (CfEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 4 (CfEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 8 (DmEcR-DEF), or SEQ ID NO: 9 (DmEcR-EF). Accordingly, the present invention also relates to an isolated truncated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a preferred embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated EcR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of the EcR polypeptide, wherein the EcR polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13 (CfEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 14 (CfEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 18 (DmEcR-DEF), or SEQ ID NO: 19 (DmEcR-EF).

In another specific embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces non-steroid binding activity or non-steroid sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a preferred embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated EcR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces non-steroid binding activity or non-steroid sensitivity of the EcR polypeptide, wherein the EcR polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:

4 (CfEcR-EF) or SEQ ID NO: 9 (DmEcR-EF). Accordingly, the present invention also relates to an isolated truncated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that reduces non-steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a preferred embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated EcR polypeptide comprising 5 a truncation mutation that reduces non-steroid binding activity or non-steroid sensitivity of the EcR polypeptide, wherein the EcR polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14 (CfEcR-EF) or SEQ ID NO: 19 (DmEcR-EF).

In particular, the present invention relates to an isolated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity of 10 the EcR or RXR polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 (CfEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 2 (CfEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 3 (CfEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 4 (CfEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 5 (CfEcR-DE), SEQ ID NO: 6 (DmEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 7 (DmEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 8 (DmEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 9 (DmEcR-EF), 15 SEQ ID NO: 10 (DmEcR-DE), SEQ ID NO: 21 (MmRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 22 (MmRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 23 (MmRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 24 (MmRXR-truncatedEF), SEQ ID NO: 25 (MmRXR-E), SEQ ID NO: 26 (HsRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 27 (HsRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 28 (HsRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 29 (HsRXR-truncated EF), and SEQ ID NO: 30 (HsRXR-E).

20 The present invention relates to an isolated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11 (CfEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 12 (CfEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 13 (CfEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 14 (CfEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 15 (CfEcR-DE), 25 SEQ ID NO: 16 (DmEcR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 17 (DmEcR-1/2CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 18 (DmEcR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 19 (DmEcR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 20 (DmEcR-DE), SEQ ID NO: 31 (MmRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 32 (MmRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 33 (MmRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 34 (MmRXR-truncatedEF), SEQ ID NO: 35 (MmRXR-E), SEQ ID NO: 36 (HsRXR-CDEF), SEQ ID NO: 37 (HsRXR-DEF), SEQ ID NO: 39 (HsRXR-EF), SEQ ID 30 NO: 39 (HsRXR-truncatedEF), and SEQ ID NO: 40 (HsRXR-E).

The present invention relates to an isolated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a specific embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated EcR or

RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. Accordingly, the present invention also relates to an isolated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide.

5 In another specific embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances non-steroid binding activity or non-steroid sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a preferred embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated EcR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances non-steroid binding activity or non-steroid sensitivity of the EcR polypeptide, wherein  
10 the EcR polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 (CfEcR-DEF) or SEQ ID NO: 8 (DmEcR-DEF). Accordingly, the present invention also relates to an isolated EcR or RXR polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that enhances non-steroid binding activity or steroid sensitivity of the EcR or RXR polypeptide. In a preferred embodiment, the present invention relates to an isolated EcR polypeptide comprising  
15 a truncation mutation that enhances non-steroid binding activity or non-steroid sensitivity of the EcR polypeptide, wherein the EcR polynucleotide comprises an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13 (CfEcR-DEF) or SEQ ID NO: 18 (DmEcR-DEF).

The present invention also relates to an isolated retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that increases ligand sensitivity of a heterodimer comprising  
20 the mutated retinoid X receptor polypeptide and a dimerization partner. Preferably, the isolated retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that increases ligand sensitivity of a heterodimer is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 23 (MmRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 24 (MmRXR-truncatedEF), SEQ ID NO: 28 (HsRXR-EF), or SEQ ID NO: 29 (HsRXR-truncatedEF). More preferably, the isolated polynucleotide encoding a retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation that increases ligand sensitivity of a heterodimer comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 33 (MmRXR-EF), SEQ ID NO: 34 (MmRXR-truncatedEF), SEQ ID NO: 38 (HsRXR-EF), or SEQ ID NO: 39 (HsRXR-truncatedEF).

30 In a specific embodiment, the dimerization partner is an ecdysone receptor polypeptide. Preferably, the dimerization partner is a truncated EcR polypeptide. More preferably, the dimerization partner is an EcR polypeptide in which domains A/B/C have been deleted. Even more preferably, the dimerization partner is an EcR polypeptide comprising an amino acid

sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13 (CfEcR-DEF) or SEQ ID NO: 18 (DmEcR-DEF).

#### METHOD OF MODULATING GENE EXPRESSION OF THE INVENTION

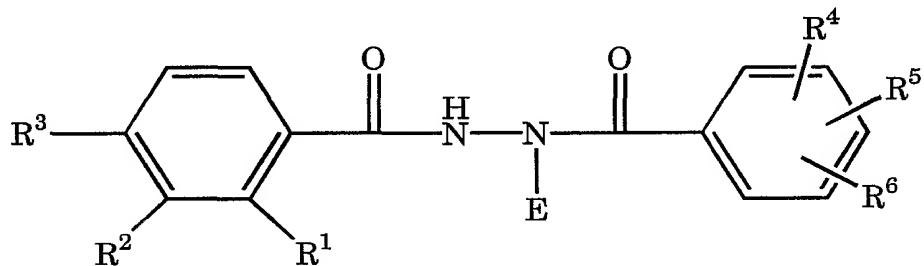
Applicants' invention also relates to methods of modulating gene expression in a host cell using a gene expression modulation system according to the invention. Specifically, 5 Applicants' invention provides a method of modulating the expression of a gene in a host cell comprising the steps of: a) introducing into the host cell a gene expression modulation system according to the invention; and b) introducing into the host cell a ligand that independently combines with the ligand binding domains of the first polypeptide and the second polypeptide 10 of the gene expression modulation system; wherein the gene to be expressed is a component of a gene expression cassette comprising: i) a response element comprising a domain to which the DNA binding domain of the first polypeptide binds; ii) a promoter that is activated by the transactivation domain of the second polypeptide; and iii) a gene whose expression is to be modulated, whereby a complex is formed comprising the ligand, the first polypeptide of the 15 gene expression modulation system and the second polypeptide of the gene expression modulation system, and whereby the complex modulates expression of the gene in the host cell.

Genes of interest for expression in a host cell using Applicants' methods may be endogenous genes or heterologous genes. Nucleic acid or amino acid sequence information for a desired gene or protein can be located in one of many public access databases, for example, 20 GENBANK, EMBL, Swiss-Prot, and PIR, or in many biology related journal publications. Thus, those skilled in the art have access to nucleic acid sequence information for virtually all known genes. Such information can then be used to construct the desired constructs for the insertion of the gene of interest within the gene expression cassettes used in Applicants' methods described herein.

25 Examples of genes of interest for expression in a host cell using Applicants' methods include, but are not limited to: antigens produced in plants as vaccines, enzymes like alpha-amylase, phytase, glucanase, and xylanase, genes for resistance against insects, nematodes, fungi, bacteria, viruses, and abiotic stresses, nutraceuticals, pharmaceuticals, vitamins, genes for modifying amino acid content, herbicide resistance, cold, drought, and heat tolerance, industrial 30 products, oils, protein, carbohydrates, antioxidants, male sterile plants, flowers, fuels, other output traits, genes encoding therapeutically desirable polypeptides or products, such as genes that can provide, modulate, alleviate, correct and/or restore polypeptides important in treating a condition, a disease, a disorder, a dysfunction, a genetic defect, and the like.

Acceptable ligands are any that modulate expression of the gene when binding of the DNA binding domain of the two hybrid system to the response element in the presence of the ligand results in activation or suppression of expression of the genes. Preferred ligands include ponasterone, muristerone A, N,N'-diacylhydrazines such as those disclosed in U. S. Patents 5 No. 6,013,836; 5,117,057; 5,530,028; and 5,378,726; dibenzoylalkyl cyanohydrazines such as those disclosed in European Application No. 461,809; N-alkyl-N,N'-diacylhydrazines such as those disclosed in U. S. Patent No. 5,225,443; N-acyl-N-alkylcarbonylhydrazines such as those disclosed in European Application No. 234,994; N-acyl-N-alkyl-N'-acylhydrazines such as those described in U. S. Patent No. 4,985,461; each of which is incorporated herein by 10 reference and other similar materials including 3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxy-N-isobutyl-benzamide, 8-O-acetylharpagide, and the like.

Preferably, the ligand for use in Applicants' method of modulating expression of gene is a compound of the formula:



15 wherein:

E is a (C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl containing a tertiary carbon or a cyano(C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>)alkyl containing a tertiary carbon;

R<sup>1</sup> is H, Me, Et, i-Pr, F, formyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CH<sub>2</sub>OH, CH<sub>2</sub>OMe, CH<sub>2</sub>CN, CN, C<sup>0</sup>CH, 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, vinyl, OH, OMe, OEt, cyclopropyl, CF<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, CH=CHCN, allyl, azido, SCN, or SCHE<sub>2</sub>;

20

$R^2$  is H, Me, Et, n-Pr, i-Pr, formyl,  $CF_3$ ,  $CHF_2$ ,  $CHCl_2$ ,  $CH_2F$ ,  $CH_2Cl$ ,  $CH_2OH$ ,  $CH_2OMe$ ,  $CH_2CN$ , CN,  $C^OCH$ , 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, vinyl, Ac, F, Cl, OH, OMe, OEt, O-n-Pr, OAc,  $NMe_2$ ,  $NET_2$ , SMe, SET,  $SOCF_3$ ,  $OCF_2CF_2H$ , COEt, cyclopropyl,  $CF_2CF_3$ ,  $CH=CHCN$ , allyl, azido,  $OCF_3$ ,  $OCHF_2$ , O-i-Pr, SCN,  $SCHF_2$ ,  $SOMe$ , NH-CN, or joined with  $R^3$  and the phenyl carbons to which  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are attached to form an ethylenedioxy, a dihydrofuryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon, or a dihydropyrryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon;

$R^3$  is H, Et, or joined with  $R^2$  and the phenyl carbons to which  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are attached to

form an ethylenedioxy, a dihydrofuryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon, or a dihydropyryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon; R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, and R<sup>6</sup> are independently H, Me, Et, F, Cl, Br, formyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CH<sub>2</sub>OH, CN, C°CH, 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, vinyl, OMe, OEt, SMe, or SEt.

5 Applicants' invention provides for modulation of gene expression in prokaryotic and eukaryotic host cells. Thus, the present invention also relates to a method for modulating gene expression in a host cell selected from the group consisting of a bacterial cell, a fungal cell, a yeast cell, a plant cell, an animal cell, and a mammalian cell. Preferably, the host cell is a yeast cell, a plant cell, a murine cell, or a human cell.

10 Expression in transgenic host cells may be useful for the expression of various polypeptides of interest including but not limited to therapeutic polypeptides, pathway intermediates; for the modulation of pathways already existing in the host for the synthesis of new products heretofore not possible using the host; cell based assays; and the like. Additionally the gene products may be useful for conferring higher growth yields of the host  
15 or for enabling alternative growth mode to be utilized.

#### HOST CELLS AND NON-HUMAN ORGANISMS OF THE INVENTION

As described above, the gene expression modulation system of the present invention may be used to modulate gene expression in a host cell. Expression in transgenic host cells  
20 may be useful for the expression of various genes of interest. Thus, Applicants' invention also provides an isolated host cell comprising a gene expression system according to the invention. The present invention also provides an isolated host cell comprising a gene expression cassette according to the invention. Applicants' invention also provides an isolated host cell comprising a polynucleotide or polypeptide according to the invention. The isolated  
25 host cell may be either a prokaryotic or a eukaryotic host cell.

Preferably, the host cell is selected from the group consisting of a bacterial cell, a fungal cell, a yeast cell, a plant cell, an animal cell, and a mammalian cell. Examples of preferred host cells include, but are not limited to, fungal or yeast species such as *Aspergillus*, *Trichoderma*, *Saccharomyces*, *Pichia*, *Candida*, *Hansenula*, or bacterial species such as  
30 those in the genera *Synechocystis*, *Synechococcus*, *Salmonella*, *Bacillus*, *Acinetobacter*, *Rhodococcus*, *Streptomyces*, *Escherichia*, *Pseudomonas*, *Methylomonas*, *Methylobacter*, *Alcaligenes*, *Synechocystis*, *Anabaena*, *Thiobacillus*, *Methanobacterium* and *Klebsiella*, plant, animal, and mammalian host cells. More preferably, the host cell is a yeast cell, a plant

cell, a murine cell, or a human cell.

In a specific embodiment, the host cell is a yeast cell selected from the group consisting of a *Saccharomyces*, a *Pichia*, and a *Candida* host cell.

In another specific embodiment, the host cell is a plant cell selected from the group consisting of an apple, *Arabidopsis*, bajra, banana, barley, bean, beet, blackgram, chickpea, chili, cucumber, eggplant, favabean, maize, melon, millet, mungbean, oat, okra, *Panicum*, papaya, peanut, pea, pepper, pigeonpea, pineapple, *Phaseolus*, potato, pumpkin, rice, sorghum, soybean, squash, sugarcane, sugarbeet, sunflower, sweet potato, tea, tomato, tobacco, watermelon, and wheat host cell.

10 In another specific embodiment, the host cell is a murine cell.

In another specific embodiment, the host cell is a human cell.

Host cell transformation is well known in the art and may be achieved by a variety of methods including but not limited to electroporation, viral infection, plasmid/vector transfection, non-viral vector mediated transfection, *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation, 15 particle bombardment, and the like. Expression of desired gene products involves culturing the transformed host cells under suitable conditions and inducing expression of the transformed gene. Culture conditions and gene expression protocols in prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells are well known in the art (see General Methods section of Examples). Cells may be harvested and the gene products isolated according to protocols specific for the gene product.

20 In addition, a host cell may be chosen which modulates the expression of the inserted polynucleotide, or modifies and processes the polypeptide product in the specific fashion desired. Different host cells have characteristic and specific mechanisms for the translational and post-translational processing and modification (e.g., glycosylation, cleavage [e.g., of signal sequence]) of proteins. Appropriate cell lines or host systems can be chosen to ensure the

25 desired modification and processing of the foreign protein expressed. For example, expression in a bacterial system can be used to produce a non-glycosylated core protein product.

However, a polypeptide expressed in bacteria may not be properly folded. Expression in yeast can produce a glycosylated product. Expression in eukaryotic cells can increase the likelihood of "native" glycosylation and folding of a heterologous protein. Moreover, expression in 30 mammalian cells can provide a tool for reconstituting, or constituting, the polypeptide's activity. Furthermore, different vector/host expression systems may affect processing reactions, such as proteolytic cleavages, to a different extent.

Applicants' invention also relates to a non-human organism comprising an isolated host cell according to the invention. Preferably, the non-human organism is selected from the group consisting of a bacterium, a fungus, a yeast, a plant, an animal, and a mammal. More preferably, the non-human organism is a yeast, a plant, a mouse, a rat, a rabbit, a cat, a dog, a 5 bovine, a goat, a pig, a horse, a sheep, a monkey, or a chimpanzee.

In a specific embodiment, the non-human organism is a yeast selected from the group consisting of *Saccharomyces*, *Pichia*, and *Candida*.

In another specific embodiment, the non-human organism is a plant selected from the group consisting of an apple, *Arabidopsis*, bajra, banana, barley, beans, beet, blackgram, 10 chickpea, chili, cucumber, eggplant, favabean, maize, melon, millet, mungbean, oat, okra, *Panicum*, papaya, peanut, pea, pepper, pigeonpea, pineapple, *Phaseolus*, potato, pumpkin, rice, sorghum, soybean, squash, sugarcane, sugarbeet, sunflower, sweet potato, tea, tomato, tobacco, watermelon, and wheat.

In another specific embodiment, the non-human organism is a *Mus musculus* mouse.

15

#### MEASURING GENE EXPRESSION/TRANSCRIPTION

One useful measurement of Applicants' methods of the invention is that of the transcriptional state of the cell including the identities and abundances of RNA, preferably mRNA species. Such measurements are conveniently conducted by measuring cDNA 20 abundances by any of several existing gene expression technologies.

Nucleic acid array technology is a useful technique for determining differential mRNA expression. Such technology includes, for example, oligonucleotide chips and DNA microarrays. These techniques rely on DNA fragments or oligonucleotides which correspond to different genes or cDNAs which are immobilized on a solid support and hybridized to probes 25 prepared from total mRNA pools extracted from cells, tissues, or whole organisms and converted to cDNA. Oligonucleotide chips are arrays of oligonucleotides synthesized on a substrate using photolithographic techniques. Chips have been produced which can analyze for up to 1700 genes. DNA microarrays are arrays of DNA samples, typically PCR products, that are robotically printed onto a microscope slide. Each gene is analyzed by a full or partial-length target DNA sequence. Microarrays with up to 10,000 genes are now routinely prepared 30 commercially. The primary difference between these two techniques is that oligonucleotide chips typically utilize 25-mer oligonucleotides which allow fractionation of short DNA molecules whereas the larger DNA targets of microarrays, approximately 1000 base pairs, may

provide more sensitivity in fractionating complex DNA mixtures.

Another useful measurement of Applicants' methods of the invention is that of determining the translation state of the cell by measuring the abundances of the constituent protein species present in the cell using processes well known in the art.

5 Where identification of genes associated with various physiological functions is desired, an assay may be employed in which changes in such functions as cell growth, apoptosis, senescence, differentiation, adhesion, binding to a specific molecules, binding to another cell, cellular organization, organogenesis, intracellular transport, transport facilitation, energy conversion, metabolism, myogenesis, neurogenesis, and/or hematopoiesis is measured.

10 In addition, selectable marker or reporter gene expression may be used to measure gene expression modulation using Applicants' invention.

Other methods to detect the products of gene expression are well known in the art and include Southern blots (DNA detection), dot or slot blots (DNA, RNA), Northern blots (RNA), and RT-PCR (RNA) analyses. Although less preferred, labeled proteins can be used to detect 15 a particular nucleic acid sequence to which it hybridizes.

In some cases it is necessary to amplify the amount of a nucleic acid sequence. This may be carried out using one or more of a number of suitable methods including, for example, polymerase chain reaction ("PCR"), ligase chain reaction ("LCR"), strand displacement amplification ("SDA"), transcription-based amplification, and the like. PCR is carried out in 20 accordance with known techniques in which, for example, a nucleic acid sample is treated in the presence of a heat stable DNA polymerase, under hybridizing conditions, with one oligonucleotide primer for each strand of the specific sequence to be detected. An extension product of each primer that is synthesized is complementary to each of the two nucleic acid strands, with the primers sufficiently complementary to each strand of the specific sequence to 25 hybridize therewith. The extension product synthesized from each primer can also serve as a template for further synthesis of extension products using the same primers. Following a sufficient number of rounds of synthesis of extension products, the sample may be analyzed as described above to assess whether the sequence or sequences to be detected are present.

30 The present invention may be better understood by reference to the following non-limiting Examples, which are provided as exemplary of the invention.

## EXAMPLES

GENERAL METHODS

Standard recombinant DNA and molecular cloning techniques used herein are well known in the art and are described by Sambrook, J., Fritsch, E. F. and Maniatis, T. *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*; Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press: Cold Spring Harbor, (1989) (Maniatis) and by T. J. Silhavy, M. L. Bennan, and L. W. Enquist, *Experiments with Gene Fusions*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (1984) and by Ausubel, F. M. et al., *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, Greene Publishing Assoc. and Wiley-Interscience (1987).

Methods for plant tissue culture, transformation, plant molecular biology, and plant, general molecular biology may be found in *Plant Tissue Culture Concepts and Laboratory Exercises* edited by RN Trigiano and DJ Gray, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2000, CRC press, New York; *Agrobacterium Protocols* edited by KMA Gartland and MR Davey, 1995, Humana Press, Totowa, New Jersey; *Methods in Plant Molecular Biology*, P. Maliga et al., 1995, Cold Spring Harbor Lab Press, New York; and *Molecular Cloning*, J. Sambrook et al., 1989, Cold Spring Harbor Lab Press, New York.

Materials and methods suitable for the maintenance and growth of bacterial cultures are well known in the art. Techniques suitable for use in the following examples may be found as set out in *Manual of Methods for General Bacteriology* (Phillipp Gerhardt, R. G. E. Murray, Ralph N. Costilow, Eugene W. Nester, Willis A. Wood, Noel R. Krieg and G. Briggs Phillips, eds), American Society for Microbiology, Washington, DC. (1994) or by Thomas D. Brock in *Biotechnology: A Textbook of Industrial Microbiology*, Second Edition, Sinauer Associates, Inc., Sunderland, MA (1989). All reagents, restriction enzymes and materials used for the growth and maintenance of host cells were obtained from Aldrich Chemicals (Milwaukee, WI), DIFCO Laboratories (Detroit, MI), GIBCO/BRL (Gaithersburg, MD), or Sigma Chemical Company (St. Louis, MO) unless otherwise specified.

Manipulations of genetic sequences may be accomplished using the suite of programs available from the Genetics Computer Group Inc. (Wisconsin Package Version 9.0, Genetics Computer Group (GCG), Madison, WI). Where the GCG program "Pileup" is used the gap creation default value of 12, and the gap extension default value of 4 may be used. Where the GCG "Gap" or "Bestfit" programs is used the default gap creation penalty of 50 and the default gap extension penalty of 3 may be used. In any case where GCG program parameters are not prompted for, in these or any other GCG program, default values may be used.

The meaning of abbreviations is as follows: "h" means hour(s), "min" means minute(s), "sec" means second(s), "d" means day(s), "μl" means microliter(s), "ml" means milliliter(s), "L" means liter(s), "μM" means micromolar, "mM" means millimolar, "μg" means microgram(s), "mg" means milligram(s), "A" means adenine or adenosine, "T" means thymine or thymidine, "G" means guanine or guanosine, "C" means cytidine or cytosine, "x g" means times gravity, "nt" means nucleotide(s), "aa" means amino acid(s), "bp" means base pair(s), "kb" means kilobase(s), "k" means kilo, "μ" means micro, and "°C" means degrees Celsius.

10

## EXAMPLE 1

Applicants' improved EcR-based inducible gene modulation system was developed for use in various applications including gene therapy, expression of proteins of interest in host cells, production of transgenic organisms, and cell-based assays. This Example describes the 15 construction and evaluation of several gene expression cassettes for use in the EcR-based inducible gene expression system of the invention.

In various cellular backgrounds, including mammalian cells, insect ecdysone receptor (EcR) heterodimerizes with retinoid X receptor (RXR) and, upon binding of ligand, transactivates genes under the control of ecdysone response elements. Applicants constructed 20 several EcR-based gene expression cassettes based on the spruce budworm *Choristoneura fumiferana* EcR ("CfEcR"; full length polynucleotide and amino acid sequences are set forth in SEQ ID NO: 49 and SEQ ID NO: 50, respectively), *C. fumiferana* ultraspiracle ("CfUSP"; full length polynucleotide and amino acid sequences are set forth in SEQ ID NO: 51 and SEQ ID NO: 52, respectively), and mouse *Mus musculus* RXR $\alpha$  (MmRXR $\alpha$ ; full length 25 polynucleotide and amino acid sequences are set forth in SEQ ID NO: 53 and SEQ ID NO: 54, respectively). The prepared receptor constructs comprise a ligand binding domain of EcR and of RXR or of USP; a DNA binding domain of GAL4 or of EcR; and an activation domain of VP16. The reporter constructs include a reporter gene, luciferase or LacZ, operably linked to a 30 synthetic promoter construct that comprises either GAL4 or EcR/USP binding sites (response elements). Various combinations of these receptor and reporter constructs were cotransfected into CHO, NIH3T3, CV1 and 293 cells. Gene induction potential (magnitude of induction) and ligand specificity and sensitivity were examined using four different ligands: two steroid ligands (ponasterone A and muristerone A) and two non-steroidal ligands (N-(2-ethyl-3-

methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine and N-(3,4-(1,2-ethylenedioxy)-2-methylbenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine) in a dose-dependent induction of reporter gene expression in the transfected cells. Reporter gene expression activities were assayed at 24hr or 48hr after ligand addition.

5

**Gene Expression Cassettes:** Ecdysone receptor-based, chemically inducible gene expression cassettes (switches) were constructed as followed, using standard cloning methods available in the art. The following is brief description of preparation and composition of each switch.

1.1 - GAL4EcR/VP16RXR: The D, E, and F domains from spruce budworm *Choristoneura fumiferana* EcR ("CfEcRDEF"; SEQ ID NO: 3) were fused to GAL4 DNA binding domain ("DNABD"; SEQ ID NO: 41) and placed under the control of an SV40e promoter (SEQ ID NO: 55). The DEF domains from mouse (*Mus musculus*) RXR ("MmRXRDEF"; SEQ ID NO: 22) were fused to the activation domain from VP16 ("VP16AD"; SEQ ID NO: 45) and placed under the control of an SV40e promoter (SEQ ID NO: 55). Five consensus GAL4 binding sites ("5XGAL4RE"; comprising 5, GAL4RE comprising SEQ ID NO: 47) were fused to a synthetic E1b minimal promoter (SEQ ID NO: 56) and placed upstream of the luciferase gene (SEQ ID NO: 57).

1.2 - GAL4EcR/VP16USP: This construct was prepared in the same way as in switch 1.1 above except MmRXRDEF was replaced with the D, E and F domains from spruce budworm USP ("CfUSPDEF"; SEQ ID NO: 58). The constructs used in this example are similar to those disclosed in U. S. Patent No. 5,880,333 except that *Choristoneura fumiferana* USP rather than *Drosophila melanogaster* USP was utilized.

1.3 - GAL4RXR/VP16CfEcR: MmRXRDEF (SEQ ID NO: 22) was fused to a GAL4DNABD (SEQ ID NO: 41) and CfEcRCDEF (SEQ ID NO: 1) was fused to a VP16AD (SEQ ID NO: 45).

1.4 - GAL4RXR/VP16DmEcR: This construct was prepared in the same way as switch 1.3 except CfEcRCDEF was replaced with DmEcRCDEF (SEQ ID NO: 6).

1.5 - GAL4USP/VP16CfEcR: This construct was prepared in the same way as switch 1.3 except MmRXRDEF was replaced with CfUSPDEF (SEQ ID NO: 58).

1.6 - GAL4RXRCfEcRVP16: This construct was prepared so that both the GAL4 DNABD and the VP16AD were placed on the same molecule. GAL4DNABD (SEQ ID NO: 41) and VP16AD (SEQ ID NO: 45) were fused to CfEcRDEF (SEQ ID NO: 3) at N-and C-termini respectively. The fusion was placed under the control of an SV40e promoter (SEQ ID NO:

55).

1.7 - VP16CfEcR: This construct was prepared such that CfEcRCDEF (SEQ ID NO: 1) was fused to VP16AD (SEQ ID NO: 45) and placed under the control of an SV40e promoter (SEQ ID NO: 55). Six ecdysone response elements ("EcRE"; SEQ ID NO: 59) from the hsp27 gene 5 were placed upstream of the promoter and a luciferase gene (SEQ ID NO: 57). This switch most probably uses endogenous RXR.

1.8 - DmVgRXR: This system was purchased from Invitrogen Corp., Carlsbad, California. It comprises a *Drosophila melanogaster* EcR ("DmEcR") with a modified DNABD fused to VP16AD and placed under the control of a CMV promoter (SEQ ID NO: 60). Full length 10 MmRXR (SEQ ID NO: 53) was placed under the control of the RSV promoter (SEQ ID NO: 61). The reporter, pIND(SP1)LacZ, contains five copies of a modified ecdysone response element ("EcRE", E/GRE), three copies of an SP1 enhancer, and a minimal heat shock promoter, all of which were placed upstream to the LacZ reporter gene.

1.9 - CfVgRXR: This example was prepared in the same way as switch 1.8 except DmEcR 15 was replaced with a truncated CfEcR comprising a partial A/B domain and the complete CDEF domains [SEQ ID NO: 62 (polynucleotide) and SEQ ID NO: 63 (polypeptide)].

1.10 - CfVgRXRdel: This example was prepared in the same way as switch 1.9 except 20 MmRXR (SEQ ID NO: 53) was deleted.

**20 Cell lines:** Four cell lines: CHO, Chinese hamster *Cricetulus griseus* ovarian cell line; NIH3T3 (3T3) mouse *Mus musculus* cell line; 293 human *Homo sapiens* kidney cell line, and CV1 African green monkey kidney cell line were used in these experiments. Cells were maintained in their respective media and were subcultured when they reached 60% confluency. Standard methods for culture and maintenance of the cells were followed.

25

**Transfections:** Several commercially available lipofactors as well as electroporation methods were evaluated and the best conditions for transfection of each cell line were developed. CHO, NIH3T3, 293 and CV1 cells were grown to 60% confluency. DNAs corresponding to the various switch constructs outlined in Examples 1.1 through 1.10 were transfected into CHO 30 cells, NIH3T3 cells, 293 cells, or CV1 cells as follows.

CHO cells: Cells were harvested when they reach 60-80% confluency and plated in 6- or 12- or 24- well plates at 250,000, 100,000, or 50,000 cells in 2.5, 1.0, or 0.5 ml of growth medium containing 10% Fetal bovine serum respectively. The next day, the cells were rinsed with

growth medium and transfected for four hours. LipofectAMINE™ 2000 (Life Technologies Inc.) was found to be the best transfection reagent for these cells. For 12-well plates, 4 µl of LipofectAMINE™ 2000 was mixed with 100 µl of growth medium. 1.0 µg of reporter construct and 0.25 µg of receptor construct(s) were added to the transfection mix. A second 5 reporter construct was added [pTKRL (Promega), 0.1 µg/transfection mix] and comprised a *Renilla* luciferase gene (SEQ ID NO: 64) operably linked and placed under the control of a thymidine kinase (TK) constitutive promoter and was used for normalization. The contents of the transfection mix were mixed in a vortex mixer and let stand at room temperature for 30 min. At the end of incubation, the transfection mix was added to the cells maintained in 400 µl 10 growth medium. The cells were maintained at 37°C and 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for four hours. At the end of incubation, 500 µl of growth medium containing 20% FBS and either DMSO (control) or a DMSO solution of appropriate ligands were added and the cells were maintained at 37 °C and 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for 24-48 hr. The cells were harvested and reporter activity was assayed. The same 15 procedure was followed for 6 and 24 well plates as well except all the reagents were doubled for 6 well plates and reduced to half for 24-well plates.

NIH3T3 Cells: Superfect™ (Qiagen Inc.) was found to be the best transfection reagent for 3T3 cells. The same procedures described for CHO cells were followed for 3T3 cells as well with two modifications. The cells were plated when they reached 50% confluency. 125,000 or 50,000 or 25,000 cells were plated per well of 6- or 12- or 24-well plates respectively. The 20 GAl4EcR/VP16RXR and reporter vector DNAs were transfected into NIH3T3 cells, the transfected cells were grown in medium containing PonA, MurA, N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-t-butylhydrazine, or N-(3,4-(1,2-ethylenedioxy)-2-methylbenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine for 48 hr. The ligand treatments were performed as described in the CHO cell section above. 25 293 Cells: LipofectAMINE™ 2000 (Life Technologies) was found to be the best lipofactor for 293 cells. The same procedures described for CHO were followed for 293 cells except that the cells were plated in biocoated plates to avoid clumping. The ligand treatments were performed as described in the CHO cell section above.

CV1 Cells: LipofectAMINE™ plus (Life Technologies) was found to be the best lipofactor 30 for CV1 cells. The same procedures described for NIH3T3 cells were followed for CV1 cells

**Ligands:** Ponasterone A and Muristerone A were purchased from Sigma Chemical Company. The two non-steroids N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-t-

butylhydrazine, or N-(3,4-(1,2-ethylenedioxy)-2-methylbenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine are synthetic stable ecdysteroids synthesized at Rohm and Haas Company. All ligands were dissolved in DMSO and the final concentration of DMSO was maintained at 0.1% in both controls and treatments.

5

**Reporter Assays:** Cells were harvested 24-48 hr after adding ligands. 125, 250, or 500  $\mu$ l of passive lysis buffer (part of Dual-luciferase<sup>TM</sup> reporter assay system from Promega Corporation) were added to each well of 24- or 12- or 24-well plates respectively. The plates were placed on a rotary shaker for 15 min. Twenty  $\mu$ l of lysate was assayed. Luciferase activity was measured using Dual-luciferase<sup>TM</sup> reporter assay system from Promega Corporation following the manufacturer's instructions.  $\beta$ -Galactosidase was measured using Galacto-Star<sup>TM</sup> assay kit from TROPIX following the manufacturer's instructions. All luciferase and  $\beta$ -galactosidase activities were normalized using *Renilla* luciferase as a standard. Fold activities were calculated by dividing normalized relative light units ("RLU") in ligand treated cells with normalized RLU in DMSO treated cells (untreated control).

The results of these experiments are provided in the following tables.

**Table 1**  
**Transactivation of reporter genes through various switches in CHO cells**

20

Composition of Switch	Mean Fold Activation with 50 $\mu$ M N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-t-butylhydrazine
1.1 GAL4EcR + VP16RXR pGAL4RELuc	267
1.2 GAL4EcR + VP16USP pGAL4RELuc	2
1.3 GAL4RXR + VP16CfEcR pGAL4RELuc	85
1.4 GAL4RXR + VP16DmEcR pGAL4RELuc	312
1.5 GAL4USP + VP16CfEcR pGAL4RELuc	2
1.6 GAL4CfEcRVP16 pGAL4RELuc	9
1.7 VP16CfEcR pEcRELuc	36
1.8 DmVgRXR + MmRXR pIND(SP1)LacZ	14

1.9 CfVgRXR + MmRXR pIND(SP1)LacZ	27
1.10 CfVgRXR pIND(SP1)LacZ	29

**Table 2**  
**Transactivation of reporter genes through various switches in 3T3 cells**

Composition of Switch	Mean Fold Activation Through N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-t-butylhydrazine
1.1 GAL4EcR + VP16RXR pGAL4RELuc	1118
1.2 GAL4EcR + VP16USP pGAL4RELuc	2
1.3 GAL4RXR + VP16CfEcR pGAL4RELuc	47
1.4 GAL4RXR + VP16DmEcR pGAL4RELuc	269
1.5 GAL4USP + VP16CfEcR pGAL4RELuc	3
1.6 GAL4CfEcRVP16 pGAL4RELuc	7
1.7 VP16CfEcR pEcRELuc	1
1.8 DmVgRXR + MmRXR pIND(SP1)LacZ	21
1.9 CfVgRXR + MmRXR pIND(SP1)LacZ	19
1.10 CfVgRXR pIND(SP1)LacZ	2

**Table 3**  
**Transactivation of reporter genes through various switches in 293 cells**

Composition of Switch	Mean Fold Activation Through N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-t-butylhydrazine
1.1 GAL4EcR + VP16RXR pGAL4RELuc	125
1.2 GAL4EcR + VP16USP pGAL4RELuc	2
1.3 GAL4RXR + VP16CfEcR pGAL4RELuc	17
1.4 GAL4RXR + VP16DmEcR pGAL4RELuc	3
1.5 GAL4USP + VP16CfEcR pGAL4RELuc	2
1.6 GAL4CfEcRVP16 pGAL4RELuc	3

1.7 VP16CfEcR pEcRELuc	2
1.8 DmVgRXR + MmRXR pIND(SP1)LacZ	21
1.9 CfVgRXR + MmRXR pIND(SP1)LacZ	12
1.10 CfVgRXR pIND(SP1)LacZ	3

**Table 4**  
**Transactivation of reporter genes through various switches in CV1 cells**

Composition of Switch	Mean Fold Activation Through N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-t-butylhydrazine
1.1 GAL4EcR + VP16RXR pGAL4RELuc	279
1.2 GAL4EcR + VP16USP pGAL4RELuc	2
1.3 GAL4RXR + VP16CfEcR pGAL4RELuc	25
1.4 GAL4RXR + VP16DmEcR pGAL4RELuc	80
1.5 GAL4USP + VP16CfEcR pGAL4RELuc	3
1.6 GAL4CfEcRVP16 pGAL4RELuc	6
1.7 VP16CfEcR pEcRELuc	1
1.8 DmVgRXR + MmRXR pIND(SP1)LacZ	12
1.9 CfVgRXR + MmRXR pIND(SP1)LacZ	7
1.10 CfVgRXR pIND(SP1)LacZ	1

5

**Table 5**  
**Transactivation of reporter gene GAL4CfEcRDEF/VP16MmRXRDEF (switch 1.1) through steroids and non-steroids in 3T3 cells.**

Ligand	Mean Fold Induction at 1.0 $\mu$ M Concentration
1. Ponasterone A	1.0
2. Muristerone A	1.0
3. N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine	~ 116
4. N'-(3,4-(1,2-ethylenedioxy)-2-methylbenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine	601

**Table 6**  
**Transactivation of reporter gene GAL4MmRXRDEF/VP16CfEcRCDEF (switch 1.3)**  
**through steroids and non-steroids in 3T3 cells.**

Ligand	Mean Fold Induction at 1.0 $\mu$ M Concentration
1. Ponasterone A	1.0
2. Muristerone A	1.0
3. N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine	71
4. N'-(3,4-(1,2-ethylenedioxy)-2-methylbenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine	54

5

Applicants' results demonstrate that the non-steroidal ecdysone agonists, N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine and N'-(3,4-(1,2-ethylenedioxy)-2-methylbenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine, were more potent activators of CfEcR as compared to *Drosophila melanogaster* EcR (DmEcR). (see Tables 1-4). Also, in the mammalian cell lines tested, MmRXR performed better than CfUSP as a heterodimeric partner for CfEcR. (see Tables 1-4). Additionally, Applicants' inducible gene expression modulation system performed better when exogenous MmRXR was used than when the system relied only on endogenous RXR levels (see Tables 1-4).

Applicants' results also show that in a CfEcR-based inducible gene expression system, the non-steroidal ecdysone agonists induced reporter gene expression at a lower concentration (i.e., increased ligand sensitivity) as compared to the steroid ligands, ponasterone A and muristerone A (see Tables 5 and 6).

Out of 10 EcR based gene switches tested, the GAL4EcR/VP16RXR switch (Switch 1.1) performed better than any other switch in all four cell lines examined and was more sensitive to non-steroids than steroids. The results also demonstrate that placing the activation domain (AD) and DNA binding domain (DNABD) on each of the two partners reduced background when compared to placing both AD and DNABD together on one of the two partners. Therefore, a switch format where the AD and DNABD are separated between two partners, works well for EcR-based gene switch applications.

In addition, the MmRXR/EcR-based switches performed better than CfUSP/EcR-based switches, which have a higher background activity than the MmRXR/EcR switches in the absence of ligand.

Finally, the GAL4EcR/VP16RXR switch (Switch 1.1) was more sensitive to non-steroid ligands than to the steroid ligands (see Tables 5 and 6). In particular, steroid ligands

initiated transactivation at concentrations of 50  $\mu$ M, whereas the non-steroid ligands initiated transactivation at less than 1  $\mu$ M (submicromolar) concentration.

## EXAMPLE 2

5

This Example describes Applicants' further analysis of truncated EcR and RXR polypeptides in the improved EcR-based inducible gene expression system of the invention. To identify the best combination and length of two receptors that give a switch with a) maximum induction in the presence of ligand; b) minimum background in the absence of ligand; c) highly 10 sensitive to ligand concentration; and d) minimum cross-talk among ligands and receptors, Applicants made and analyzed several truncation mutations of the CfEcR and MmRXR receptor polypeptides in NIH3T3 cells.

Briefly, polynucleotides encoding EcR or RXR receptors were truncated at the junctions of A/B, C, D, E and F domains and fused to either a GAL4 DNA binding domain 15 encoding polynucleotide (SEQ ID NO: 41) for CfEcR, or a VP16 activation domain encoding polynucleotide (SEQ ID NO: 45) for MmRXR as described in Example 1. The resulting receptor truncation/fusion polypeptides were assayed in NIH3T3 cells. Plasmid pFRLUC (Stratagene) encoding a luciferase polypeptide was used as a reporter gene construct and pTKRL (Promega) encoding a *Renilla* luciferase polypeptide under the control of the 20 constitutive TK promoter was used to normalize the transfections as described above. The analysis was performed in triplicates and mean luciferase counts were determined as described above.

### Gene Expression Cassettes Encoding Truncated Ecdysone Receptor Polypeptides

Gene expression cassettes comprising polynucleotides encoding either full length or 25 truncated CfEcR polypeptides fused to a GAL4 DNA binding domain (SEQ ID NO: 41): GAL4CfEcRA/BCDEF (full length CfEcRA/BCDEF; SEQ ID NO: 49), GAL4CfEcRCDEF (CfEcRCDEF; SEQ ID NO: 1), GAL4CfEcR1/2CDEF (CfEcR1/2CDEF; SEQ ID NO: 2), GAL4CfEcRDEF (CfEcRDEF; SEQ ID NO: 3), GAL4CfEcREF (CfEcREF; SEQ ID NO: 4), and GAL4CfEcRDE (CfEcRDE; SEQ ID NO: 5) were transfected into NIH3T3 cells along 30 with VP16MmRXRDEF (constructed as in Example 1.1; Figure 11) or VP16MmRXREF [constructed as in Example 1.1 except that MmRXRDEF was replaced with MmRXREF (SEQ ID NO: 23); Figure 12], and pFRLUc and pTKRL plasmid DNAs. The transfected cells were grown in the presence 0, 1, 5 or 25  $\mu$ M of N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-

dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine or PonA for 48 hr. The cells were harvested, lysed and luciferase reporter activity was measured in the cell lysates. Total fly luciferase relative light units are presented. The number on the top of each bar is the maximum fold induction for that treatment.

5 Applicants' results show that the EF domain of MmRXR is sufficient and performs better than DEF domains of this receptor (see Figures 11 and 12). Applicants have also shown that, in general, EcR/RXR receptor combinations are insensitive to PonA (see Figures 11 and 12). As shown in the Figures 11 and 12, the GAL4CfEcRCDEF hybrid polypeptide (SEQ ID NO: 7) performed better than any other CfEcR hybrid polypeptide.

10 Gene Expression Cassettes Encoding Truncated Retinoid X Receptor Polypeptides

Gene expression cassettes comprising polynucleotides encoding either full length or truncated MmRXR polypeptides fused to a VP16 transactivation domain (SEQ ID NO: 45): VP16MmRXRA/BCDEF (full length MmRXRA/BCDEF; SEQ ID NO: 53), VP16MmRXRCDEF (MmRXRCDEF; SEQ ID NO: 21), VP16MmRXRDEF (MmRXRDEF; SEQ ID NO: 22), VP16MmRXREF (MmRXREF; SEQ ID NO: 23), VP16MmRXRBam-EF ("MmRXRBam-EF" or "MmRXR-truncatedEF"; SEQ ID NO: 24), and VP16MmRXRAF2del ("MmRXRAF2del" or "MmRXR-E"; SEQ ID NO: 25) constructs were transfected into NIH3T3 cells along with GAL4CfEcRCDEF (constructed as in Example 1.1; Figure 13) or GAL4CfEcRDEF [constructed as in Example 1.1 except CfEcRCDEF was replaced with CfEcRDEF (SEQ ID NO: 3); Figure 14], pFRLUC and pTKRL plasmid DNAs as described above. The transfected cells were grown in the presence 0, 1, 5 and 25 uM of N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine or PonA for 48 hr. The cells were harvested and lysed and reporter activity was measured in the cell lysate. Total fly luciferase relative light units are presented. The number on top of each bar is the maximum fold induction in that treatment.

25 Of all the truncations of MmRXR tested, Applicants' results show that the MmRXREF receptor was the best partner for CfEcR (Figures 13 and 14). CfEcRCDEF showed better induction than CfEcRDEF using MmRXREF. Deleting AF2 (abbreviated "EF-AF2del") or helices 1-3 of the E domain (abbreviated "EF-Bamdel") resulted in an RXR receptor that reduced gene induction and ligand sensitivity when partnered with either CfEcRCDEF (Figure 13) or CfEcRDEF (Figure 14) in NIH3T3 cells. In general, the CfEcR/RXR-based switch was much more sensitive to the non-steroid N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine than to the steroid PonA.

## EXAMPLE 3

This Example describes Applicants' further analysis of gene expression cassettes encoding truncated EcR or RXR receptor polypeptides that affect either ligand binding activity or ligand sensitivity, or both. Briefly, six different combinations of chimeric receptor pairs, constructed as described in Examples 1 and 2, were further analyzed in a single experiment in NIH3T3 cells. These six receptor pair combinations and their corresponding sample numbers are depicted in Table 7.

10

Table 7

## CfEcR + MmRXR Truncation Receptor Combinations in NIH3T3 Cells

Figure 15 X-Axis Sample No.	EcR Polypeptide Construct	RXR Polypeptide Construct
Samples 1 and 2	GAL4CfEcRCDEF	VP16RXRA/BCDEF (Full length)
Samples 3 and 4	GAL4CfEcRCDEF	VP16RXRDEF
Samples 5 and 6	GAL4CfEcRCDEF	VP16RXREF
Samples 7 and 8	GAL4CfEcRDEF	VP16RXRA/BCDEF (Full length)
Samples 9 and 10	GAL4CfEcRDEF	VP16RXRDEF
Samples 11 and 12	GAL4CfEcRDEF	VP16RXREF

The above receptor construct pairs, along with the reporter plasmid pFRLuc were transfected into NIH3T3 cells as described above. The six CfEcR truncation receptor combinations were duplicated into two groups and treated with either steroid (odd numbers on x-axis of Figure 15) or non-steroid (even numbers on x-axis of Figure 15). In particular, the cells were grown in media containing 0, 1, 5 or 25 uM PonA (steroid) or N-(2-ethyl-3-methoxybenzoyl)-N'-(3,5-dimethylbenzoyl)-N'-tert-butylhydrazine (non-steroid) ligand. The reporter gene activity was measured and total RLU are shown. The number on top of each bar is the maximum fold induction for that treatment and is the mean of three replicates.

As shown in Figure 15, the CfEcRCDEF/MmRXREF receptor combinations were the best switch pairs both in terms of total RLU and fold induction (compare columns 1-6 to columns 7-12). This confirms Applicants' earlier findings as described in Example 2 (Figures 11-14). The same gene expression cassettes encoding the truncated EcR and RXR polypeptides were also assayed in a human lung carcinoma cell line A549 (ATCC) and similar results were observed (data not shown).

WE CLAIM:

1. A gene expression modulation system comprising:
  - a) a first gene expression cassette that is capable of being expressed in a host cell comprising a polynucleotide sequence that encodes a first polypeptide comprising:
    - i) a DNA-binding domain that recognizes a response element associated with a gene whose expression is to be modulated;
    - ii) a ligand binding domain comprising a ligand binding domain from a nuclear receptor;
  - b) a second gene expression cassette that is capable of being expressed in the host cell comprising a polynucleotide sequence that encodes a second polypeptide comprising:
    - i) a transactivation domain; and
    - ii) a ligand binding domain comprising a ligand binding domain from a nuclear receptor other than ultraspiracle (USP);
- 15 wherein the transactivation domain is from a nuclear receptor other than an ecdysone receptor, a retinoid X receptor, or an ultraspiracle receptor; and wherein the ligand binding domains from the first polypeptide and the second polypeptide are different and dimerize.
2. The gene expression modulation system according to claim 1, further comprising a third gene expression cassette comprising:
  - i) a response element to which the DNA-binding domain of the first polypeptide binds;
  - ii) a promoter that is activated by the transactivation domain of the second polypeptide; and
  - iii) the gene whose expression is to be modulated.
- 25 3. The gene expression modulation system according to claim 1, wherein the ligand binding domain of the first polypeptide is an ecdysone receptor polypeptide.
4. The gene expression modulation system according to claim 1, wherein the ligand binding domain of the second polypeptide is a retinoid X receptor polypeptide.
5. A gene expression modulation system comprising:
  - a) a first gene expression cassette that is capable of being expressed in a host cell comprising a polynucleotide sequence that encodes a first polypeptide comprising:
    - i) a DNA-binding domain that recognizes a response element associated with a gene whose expression is to be modulated; and

- ii) a ligand binding domain comprising a ligand binding domain from an ecdysone receptor; and
- b) a second gene expression cassette that is capable of being expressed in the host cell comprising a polynucleotide sequence that encodes a second polypeptide comprising:
  - i) a transactivation domain; and
  - ii) a ligand binding domain comprising a ligand binding domain from a retinoid X receptor;

wherein the ligand binding domains from the first polypeptide and the second polypeptide are 10 different and dimerize.

6. The gene expression modulation system according to claim 5, further comprising a third gene expression cassette comprising:

- i) a response element to which the DNA-binding domain of the first polypeptide binds;
- ii) a promoter that is activated by the transactivation domain of the second polypeptide; and
- iii) the gene whose expression is to be modulated.

7. The gene expression modulation system according to claim 5, wherein the ligand binding domain of the first polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a 20 nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 10.

8. The gene expression modulation system according to claim 5, wherein the ligand binding domain of the first polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from 25 the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, and SEQ ID NO: 20.

9. The gene expression modulation system according to claim 5, wherein the ligand binding domain of the second polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a 30 nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 29, and SEQ ID NO: 30.

10. The gene expression modulation system according to claim 5, wherein the

ligand binding domain of the second polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 37, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 39, and SEQ ID NO: 40.

5        11.      A gene expression modulation system comprising:

- a) a first gene expression cassette that is capable of being expressed in a host cell comprising a polynucleotide sequence that encodes a first polypeptide comprising:
  - i) a DNA-binding domain that recognizes a response element associated with a gene whose expression is to be modulated; and
  - 10        ii) a ligand binding domain comprising a ligand binding domain from a *retinoid X receptor*; and
- b) a second gene expression cassette that is capable of being expressed in the host cell comprising a polynucleotide sequence that encodes a second polypeptide comprising:
  - i) a transactivation domain; and
  - 15        ii) a ligand binding domain comprising a ligand binding domain from an *ecdysone receptor*;

wherein the ligand binding domains from the first polypeptide and the second polypeptide are different and dimerize.

20        12.      The gene expression modulation system according to claim 11, further comprising a third gene expression cassette comprising:

- i) a response element to which the DNA-binding domain of the first polypeptide binds;
- 25        ii) a promoter that is activated by the transactivation domain of the second polypeptide; and
- iii) the gene whose expression is to be modulated.

13.      The gene expression modulation system according to claim 11, wherein the ligand binding domain of the first polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 29, and SEQ ID NO: 30.

30        14.      The gene expression modulation system according to claim 11, wherein the ligand binding domain of the first polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from

the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 37, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 39, and SEQ ID NO: 40.

15. The gene expression modulation system according to claim 11, wherein the  
5 ligand binding domain of the second polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 10.

16. The gene expression modulation system according to claim 11, wherein the  
10 ligand binding domain of the second polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, and SEQ ID NO: 20.

17. A gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid  
15 polypeptide comprising a DNA-binding domain and an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain, wherein the DNA binding domain is from a nuclear receptor other than an ecdysone receptor.

18. The gene expression cassette according to claim 17, wherein the DNA-binding domain is a GAL4 DNA-binding domain or a LexA DNA-binding domain.

20 19. A gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid polypeptide comprising a DNA-binding domain and a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain, wherein the DNA binding domain is from a nuclear receptor other than a retinoid X receptor.

25 20. The gene expression cassette according to claim 19, wherein the DNA-binding domain is a GAL4 DNA-binding domain or a LexA DNA-binding domain.

21. A gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid polypeptide comprising a transactivation domain and an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain, wherein the transactivation domain is from a nuclear receptor other than an ecdysone receptor.

30 22. The gene expression cassette according to claim 21, wherein the transactivation domain is a VP16 transactivation domain.

23. A gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid polypeptide comprising a transactivation domain and a retinoid X receptor ligand binding

domain, wherein the transactivation domain is from a nuclear receptor other than a retinoid X receptor.

24. The gene expression cassette according to claim 22, wherein the transactivation domain is a VP16 transactivation domain.

5 25. A gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid polypeptide comprising a DNA-binding domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of a GAL4 DBD (SEQ ID NO: 41) or a LexA DBD (SEQ ID NO: 43) and an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ 10 ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 10.

15 26. A gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid polypeptide comprising a DNA-binding domain comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of a GAL4 DBD (SEQ ID NO: 42) or a LexA DBD (SEQ ID NO: 44) and an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, and SEQ ID NO: 20.

20 27. A gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid polypeptide comprising a DNA-binding domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of a GAL4 DBD (SEQ ID NO: 41) or a LexA DBD (SEQ ID NO: 43) and a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID 25 NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 29, and SEQ ID NO: 30.

28. A gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid polypeptide comprising a DNA-binding domain comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of a GAL4 DBD (SEQ ID NO: 42) or a LexA DBD (SEQ ID NO: 44) and a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 37, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID 30 NO: 39, and SEQ ID NO: 40.

29. A gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid

polypeptide comprising a transactivation domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 and an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5,

5 SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 10.

30. A gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid polypeptide comprising a transactivation domain comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 46 and an ecdysone receptor ligand binding domain comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 10 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18, SEQ ID NO: 19, and SEQ ID NO: 20.

31. A gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid polypeptide comprising a transactivation domain encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 and a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain 15 encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 29, and SEQ ID NO: 30.

32. A gene expression cassette comprising a polynucleotide encoding a hybrid 20 polypeptide comprising a transactivation domain comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 46 and a retinoid X receptor ligand binding domain comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 37, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 39, and SEQ ID NO: 40.

25 33. An isolated polynucleotide encoding an ecdysone receptor polypeptide or a retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation, wherein the truncation mutation reduces ligand binding activity of the ecdysone receptor polypeptide or the retinoid X receptor polypeptide.

34. An isolated polynucleotide encoding an ecdysone receptor polypeptide or a 30 retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation, wherein the truncation mutation reduces steroid binding activity of the ecdysone receptor polypeptide or the retinoid X receptor polypeptide.

35. An isolated polynucleotide encoding an ecdysone receptor polypeptide or a

retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation, wherein the truncation mutation reduces non-steroid binding activity of the ecdysone receptor polypeptide or the retinoid X receptor polypeptide.

36. An isolated polynucleotide encoding an ecdysone receptor polypeptide or a 5 retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation, wherein the truncation mutation enhances ligand binding activity of the ecdysone receptor polypeptide or the retinoid X receptor polypeptide.

37. An isolated polynucleotide encoding an ecdysone receptor polypeptide or a 10 retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation, wherein the truncation mutation enhances steroid binding activity of the ecdysone receptor polypeptide or the retinoid X receptor polypeptide.

38. An isolated polynucleotide encoding an ecdysone receptor polypeptide or a 15 retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation, wherein the truncation mutation enhances non-steroid binding activity of the ecdysone receptor polypeptide or the retinoid X receptor polypeptide.

39. An isolated polynucleotide encoding a retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising a truncation mutation, wherein the truncation mutation increases ligand sensitivity of the retinoid X receptor polypeptide.

40. An isolated polynucleotide encoding a retinoid X receptor polypeptide 20 comprising a truncation mutation, wherein the truncation mutation increases ligand sensitivity of a heterodimer, wherein the heterodimer comprises said retinoid X receptor polypeptide and a dimerization partner.

41. The isolated polynucleotide according to claim 40, wherein the dimerization partner is an ecdysone receptor polypeptide.

25 42. An isolated polynucleotide encoding a truncated ecdysone receptor polypeptide, wherein the polynucleotide comprises a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, and SEQ ID NO: 10.

30 43. An isolated polypeptide encoded by the isolated polynucleotide according to claim 42.

44. An isolated truncated ecdysone receptor polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13, SEQ ID NO: 14, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 16, SEQ ID NO: 17, SEQ ID NO: 18,

SEQ ID NO: 19, and SEQ ID NO: 20.

45. An isolated polynucleotide encoding a truncated retinoid X receptor polypeptide, wherein the polynucleotide comprises a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 22, SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ 5 ID NO: 25, SEQ ID NO: 26, SEQ ID NO: 27, SEQ ID NO: 28, SEQ ID NO: 29, and SEQ ID NO: 30.

46. An isolated polypeptide encoded by the isolated polynucleotide according to claim 45.

47. An isolated truncated retinoid X receptor polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 31, SEQ ID NO: 32, SEQ ID 10 NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 34, SEQ ID NO: 35, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 37, SEQ ID NO: 38, SEQ ID NO: 39, and SEQ ID NO: 40.

48. A method of modulating the expression of a gene in a host cell comprising the gene to be modulated comprising the steps of:

15 a) introducing into the host cell the gene expression modulation system according to claim 1; and

b) introducing into the host cell a ligand that independently combines with the ligand binding domains of the first polypeptide and the second polypeptide;

wherein the gene to be expressed is a component of a chimeric gene comprising:

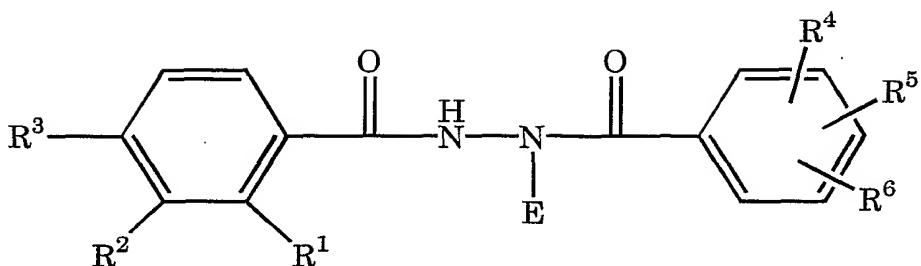
20 i) a response element to which the DNA binding domain from the first polypeptide binds;

ii) a promoter that is activated by the transactivation domain of the second polypeptide; and

iii) a gene whose expression is to be modulated,

25 whereby a complex is formed comprising the ligand, the first polypeptide, and the second polypeptide, and whereby the complex modulates expression of the gene in the host cell.

49. The method according to claim 48, wherein the ligand is a compound of the formula:



wherein:

E is a (C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl containing a tertiary carbon or a cyano(C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>)alkyl containing a tertiary carbon;

5 R<sup>1</sup> is H, Me, Et, i-Pr, F, formyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CH<sub>2</sub>OH, CH<sub>2</sub>OMe, CH<sub>2</sub>CN, CN, C°CH, 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, vinyl, OH, OMe, OEt, cyclopropyl, CF<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, CH=CHCN, allyl, azido, SCN, or SCHF<sub>2</sub>;

R<sup>2</sup> is H, Me, Et, n-Pr, i-Pr, formyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CH<sub>2</sub>OH, CH<sub>2</sub>OMe, CH<sub>2</sub>CN, CN, C°CH, 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, vinyl, Ac, F, Cl, OH, OMe, OEt, O-n-Pr, OAc, NMe<sub>2</sub>, NEt<sub>2</sub>, SMe, SET, SOCF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>2</sub>H, COEt, cyclopropyl, CF<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, CH=CHCN, allyl, azido, OCF<sub>3</sub>, OCHF<sub>2</sub>, O-i-Pr, SCN, SCHF<sub>2</sub>, SOMe, NH-CN, or joined with R<sup>3</sup> and the phenyl carbons to which R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are attached to form an ethylenedioxy, a dihydrofuryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon, or a dihydropyryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon;

15 R<sup>3</sup> is H, Et, or joined with R<sup>2</sup> and the phenyl carbons to which R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are attached to form an ethylenedioxy, a dihydrofuryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon, or a dihydropyryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon;

R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, and R<sup>6</sup> are independently H, Me, Et, F, Cl, Br, formyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CH<sub>2</sub>OH, CN, C°CH, 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, vinyl, OMe, OEt, SMe, or SET.

20 50. A method of modulating the expression of a gene in a host cell comprising the gene to be modulated comprising the steps of:

a) introducing into the host cell the gene expression modulation system of claim 5; and

25 b) introducing into the host cell a ligand that independently combines with the ligand binding domains of the first polypeptide and the second polypeptide;

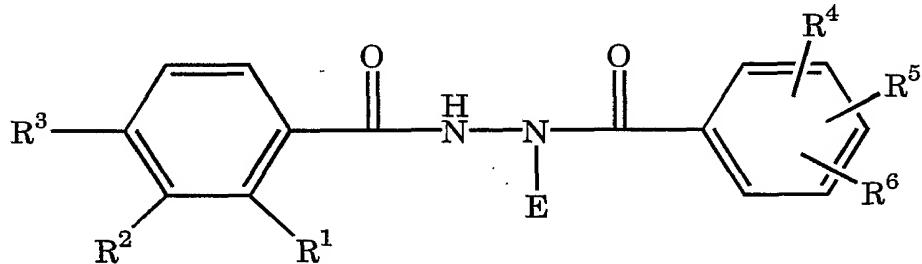
wherein the gene to be expressed is a component of a chimeric gene comprising:

i) a response element to which the DNA binding domain from the first polypeptide binds;

- ii) a promoter that is activated by the transactivation domain of the second polypeptide; and
- iii) a gene whose expression is to be modulated,

whereby a complex is formed comprising the ligand, the first polypeptide, and the second 5 polypeptide, and whereby the complex modulates expression of the gene in the host cell.

51. The method according to claim 50, wherein the ligand is a compound of the formula:



wherein:

10 E is a (C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl containing a tertiary carbon or a cyano(C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>)alkyl containing a tertiary carbon;

R<sup>1</sup> is H, Me, Et, i-Pr, F, formyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CH<sub>2</sub>OH, CH<sub>2</sub>OMe, CH<sub>2</sub>CN, CN, C°CH, 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, vinyl, OH, OMe, OEt, cyclopropyl, CF<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, CH=CHCN, allyl, azido, SCN, or SCHF<sub>2</sub>;

15 R<sup>2</sup> is H, Me, Et, n-Pr, i-Pr, formyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CH<sub>2</sub>OH, CH<sub>2</sub>OMe, CH<sub>2</sub>CN, CN, C°CH, 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, vinyl, Ac, F, Cl, OH, OMe, OEt, O-n-Pr, OAc, NMe<sub>2</sub>, NET<sub>2</sub>, SMe, SET, SOCF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>2</sub>H, COEt, cyclopropyl, CF<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, CH=CHCN, allyl, azido, OCF<sub>3</sub>, OCHF<sub>2</sub>, O-i-Pr, SCN, SCHF<sub>2</sub>, SOMe, NH-CN, or joined with R<sup>3</sup> and the phenyl carbons to which R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are attached to form an ethylenedioxy, a dihydrofuryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon, or a dihydropyryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon;

20 R<sup>3</sup> is H, Et, or joined with R<sup>2</sup> and the phenyl carbons to which R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are attached to form an ethylenedioxy, a dihydrofuryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon, or a dihydropyryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon;

R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, and R<sup>6</sup> are independently H, Me, Et, F, Cl, Br, formyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CH<sub>2</sub>OH, CN, C°CH, 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, vinyl, OMe, OEt, SMe, or SET.

52. A method of modulating the expression of a gene in a host cell comprising the gene to be modulated comprising the steps of:

a) introducing into the host cell the gene expression modulation system of claim 11; and

b) introducing into the host cell a ligand that independently combines with the ligand binding domains of the first polypeptide and the second polypeptide;

5 wherein the gene to be expressed is a component of a chimeric gene comprising:

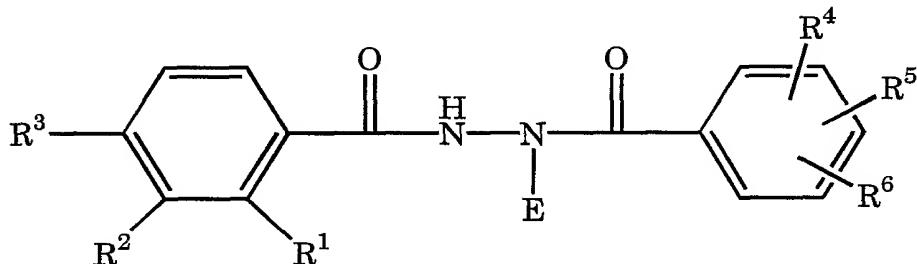
- i) a response element to which the DNA binding domain from the first polypeptide binds;
- ii) a promoter that is activated by the transactivation domain of the second polypeptide; and
- iii) a gene whose expression is to be modulated,

10

whereby a complex is formed comprising the ligand, the first polypeptide, and the second polypeptide, and whereby the complex modulates expression of the gene in the host cell.

53. The method according to claim 52, wherein the ligand is a compound of the formula:

15



wherein:

E is a (C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl containing a tertiary carbon or a cyano(C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>)alkyl containing a tertiary carbon;

20

R<sup>1</sup> is H, Me, Et, i-Pr, F, formyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CH<sub>2</sub>OH, CH<sub>2</sub>OMe, CH<sub>2</sub>CN, CN, C°CH, 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, vinyl, OH, OMe, OEt, cyclopropyl, CF<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, CH=CHCN, allyl, azido, SCN, or SCHF<sub>2</sub>;

25

R<sup>2</sup> is H, Me, Et, n-Pr, i-Pr, formyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, CHF<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>F, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl, CH<sub>2</sub>OH, CH<sub>2</sub>OMe, CH<sub>2</sub>CN, CN, C°CH, 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, vinyl, Ac, F, Cl, OH, OMe, OEt, O-n-Pr, OAc, NMe<sub>2</sub>, NET<sub>2</sub>, SMe, SET, SOCF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>2</sub>H, COEt, cyclopropyl, CF<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, CH=CHCN, allyl, azido, OCF<sub>3</sub>, OCHF<sub>2</sub>, O-i-Pr, SCN, SCHF<sub>2</sub>, SOMe, NH-CN, or joined with R<sup>3</sup> and the phenyl carbons to which R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are attached to form an ethylenedioxy, a dihydrofuryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon, or a dihydropyryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon;

$R^3$  is H, Et, or joined with  $R^2$  and the phenyl carbons to which  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are attached to form an ethylenedioxy, a dihydrofuryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon, or a dihydropyryl ring with the oxygen adjacent to a phenyl carbon;  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$ , and  $R^6$  are independently H, Me, Et, F, Cl, Br, formyl,  $CF_3$ ,  $CHF_2$ ,  $CHCl_2$ ,  $CH_2F$ ,  $CH_2Cl$ ,  $CH_2OH$ , CN,  $C^{\circ}CH$ , 1-propynyl, 2-propynyl, vinyl, OMe, OEt, SMe, or SET.

5 54. An isolated host cell into which the gene expression modulation system according to claim 1 has been introduced.

55. The isolated host cell according to claim 54, wherein the host cell is selected 10 from the group consisting of a bacterial cell, a fungal cell, a yeast cell, a plant cell, an animal cell, and a mammalian cell.

56. The isolated host cell according to claim 55, wherein the host cell is a plant cell, a murine cell, or a human cell.

57. An isolated host cell into which the gene expression modulation system 15 according to claim 5 has been introduced.

58. The isolated host cell according to claim 57, wherein the host cell is selected from the group consisting of a bacterial cell, a fungal cell, a yeast cell, a plant cell, an animal cell, and a mammalian cell.

59. The isolated host cell according to claim 58, wherein the host cell is a plant 20 cell, a murine cell, or a human cell.

60. An isolated host cell into which the gene expression modulation system according to claim 11 has been introduced.

61. The isolated host cell according to claim 60, wherein the host cell is selected 25 from the group consisting of a bacterial cell, a fungal cell, a yeast cell, a plant cell, an animal cell, and a mammalian cell.

62. The isolated host cell according to claim 61, wherein the host cell is a plant cell, a murine cell, or a human cell.

63. A non-human organism comprising a host cell into which the gene expression modulation system according to claim 1 has been introduced.

30 64. The non-human organism according to claim 63, wherein the non-human organism is selected from the group consisting of a bacterium, a fungus, a yeast, a plant, an animal, and a mammal.

65. The non-human organism according to claim 64, wherein the non-human

organism is selected from the group consisting of a plant, a mouse, a rat, a rabbit, a cat, a dog, a bovine, a goat, a pig, a horse, a sheep, a monkey, and a chimpanzee.

66. A non-human organism comprising a host cell into which the gene expression modulation system according to claim 5 has been introduced.

5 67. The non-human organism according to claim 66, wherein the non-human organism is selected from the group consisting of a bacterium, a fungus, a yeast, a plant, an animal, and a mammal.

10 68. The non-human organism according to claim 67, wherein the non-human organism is selected from the group consisting of a plant, a mouse, a rat, a rabbit, a cat, a dog, a bovine, a goat, a pig, a horse, a sheep, a monkey, and a chimpanzee.

69. A non-human organism comprising a host cell into which the gene expression modulation system according to claim 11 has been introduced.

15 70. The non-human organism according to claim 69, wherein the non-human organism is selected from the group consisting of a bacterium, a fungus, a yeast, a plant, an animal, and a mammal.

71. The non-human organism according to claim 70, wherein the non-human organism is selected from the group consisting of a plant, a mouse, a rat, a rabbit, a cat, a dog, a bovine, a goat, a pig, a horse, a sheep, a monkey, and a chimpanzee.

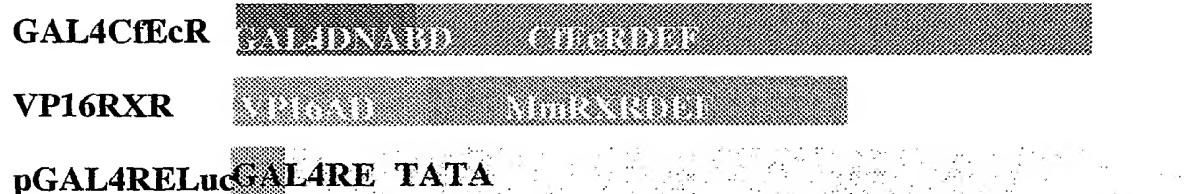


Figure 1

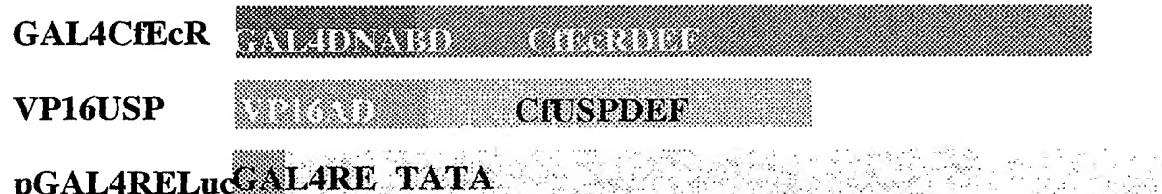


Figure 2



Figure 3

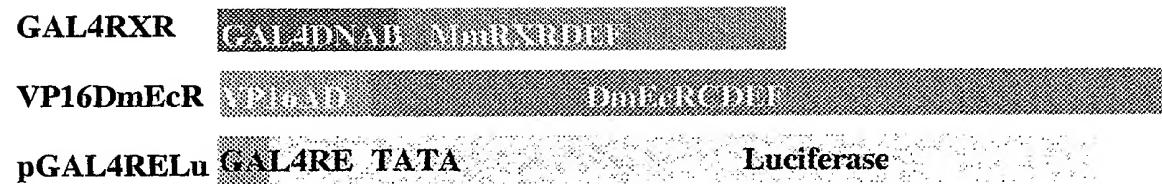


Figure 4

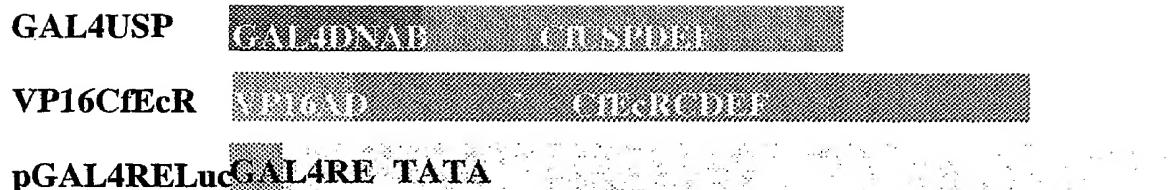


Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7

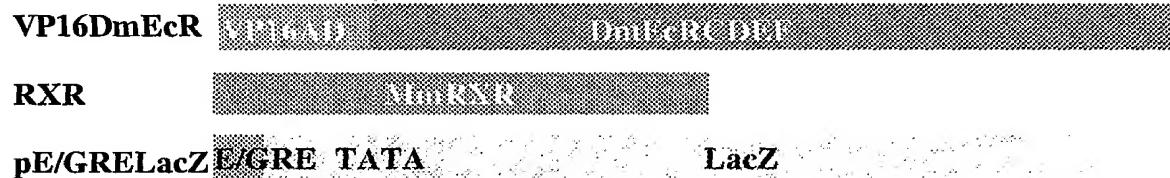


Figure 8

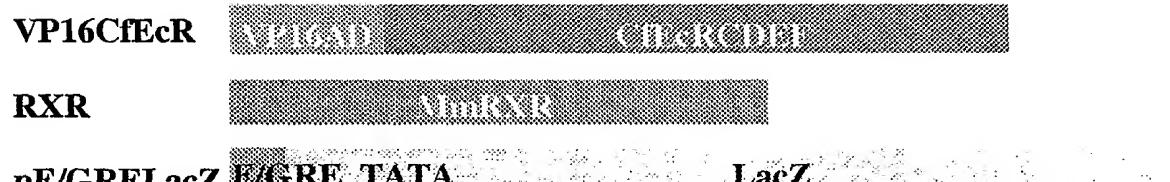


Figure 9



Figure 10

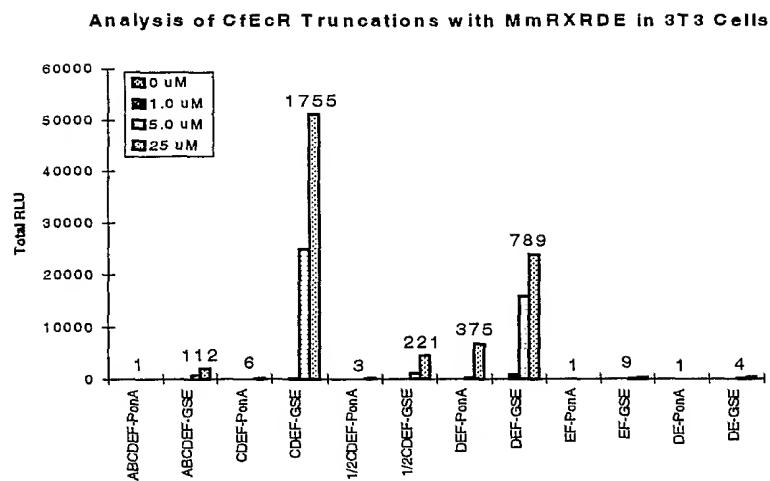


Figure 11

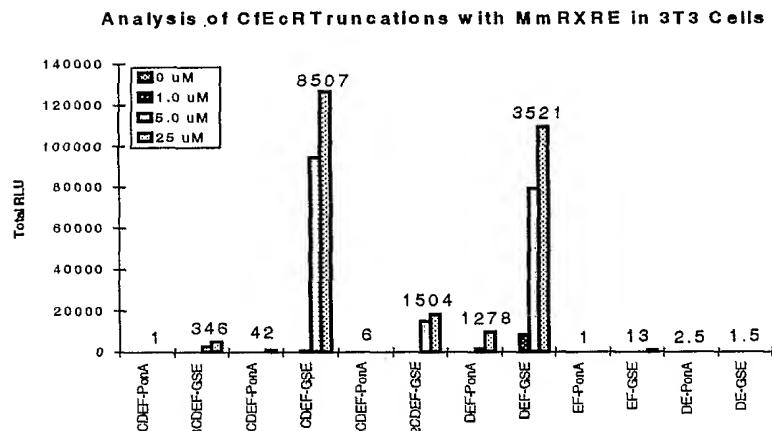


Figure 12

## Analysis of MmRXR Truncations with CfEcRCDEF in 3T3 Cells

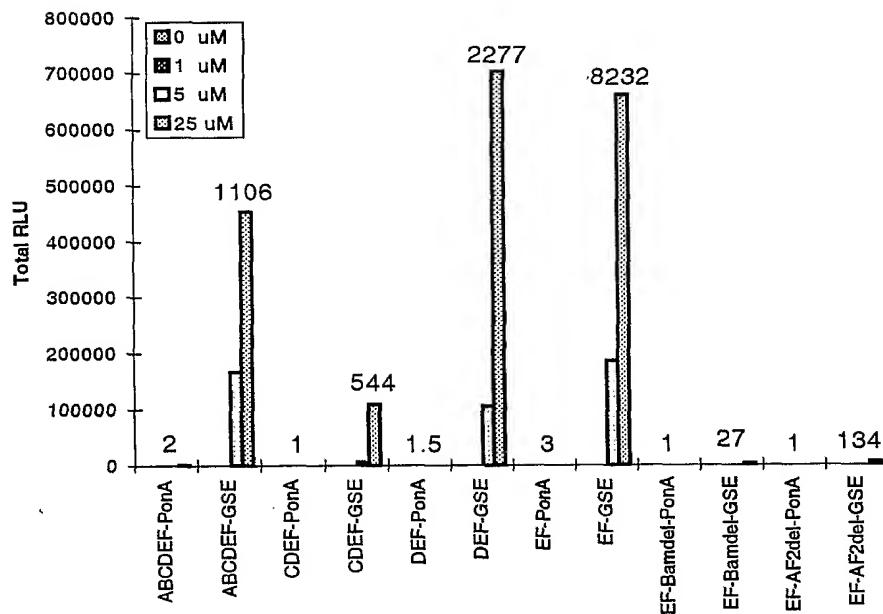


Figure 13

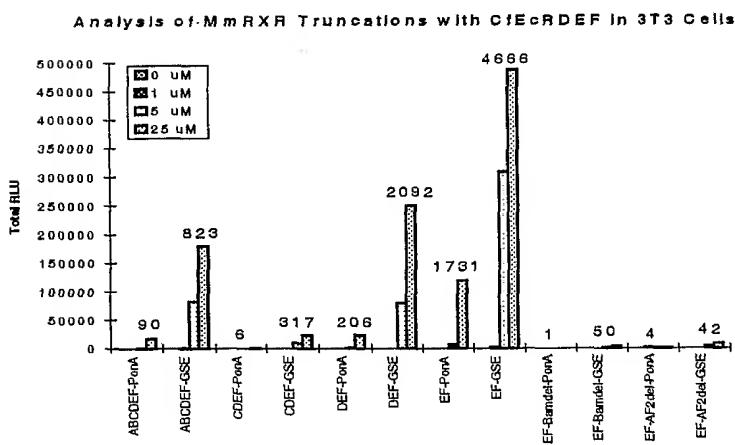


Figure 14

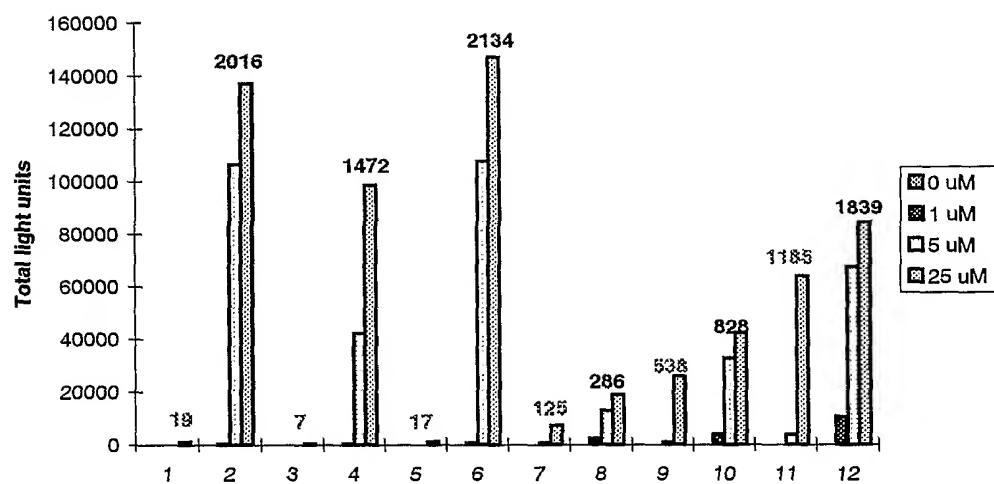


Figure 15

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Palli, Subba Reddy  
Kapitskaya, Marianna Zinovjevna  
Cress, Dean Ervin

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cacaccaac cgccgcctat cctcgagtcc cccacgaatc tctagcccc ggcgcacgc	1020
atcgccgatg ccgcgtccgg ccgcgtgct ctga	1054

&lt;210&gt; 4

&lt;211&gt; 735

&lt;212&gt; DNA

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; misc\_feature

&lt;223&gt; Novel Sequence

<400> 4	
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cagcaagcgg acgatgaaaa cgaagagtct gacactccct tccgcccagat cacagagatg	120
actatcctca cggtccaact tatcgtggag ttgcgcaagg gattgccagg gttcgccaag	180
atctcgcagc ctgatcaa at tacgctgctt aaggcttgct caagtgaggt aatgatgctc	240
cgagtcgcgc gacgatacga tgccgcctca gacagtgttc tggtcgccgaa caaccaagcg	300

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tacactcgcg acaactaccg	360
caaggctggc atggcctacg	
tcatcgagga tctactgcac	
ttctgccggt gcatgtactc	420
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gtcgcatct tttctgaccg	480
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aactggtgga agaaatccag	
cggtactacc tgaatacgct	540
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agctgagcgg gtcggcgcgt	
tcgtccgtca tatacgcaa	600
gatcctctca atcctctctg	
agctacgcac gctcggcatg	
caaaactcca acatgtgc	660
at ctcctcaag ctcaagaaca	
gaaagctgcc gccttcctc	
gaggagatct gggatgtggc	720
ggacatgtcg cacacccaac	
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ccacagaatc tctag	735

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 <211> 960  
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<220>  
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 <223> Novel Sequence

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aaggagaagg acaaactgcc	120
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acgaccacat gcocccatt	
atgcagtgtg aacctccacc	180
tcctgaagca gcaaggattc	
acgaagtggt cccagggttt	
ctctccgaca agctgttgg	240
gacaaaccgg cagaaaaaca	
tccccagtt gacagccaac	
cagcagttcc ttatcgccag	300
gctcatctgg taccaggacg	
ggtacgagca gccttctgat	
gaagatttga agaggattac	360
gcagacgtgg cagcaagcgg	
acgataaaa cgaagagtct	
gacactccct tccgccagat	420
cacagagatg actatcctca	
cggtccaact taticgtggag	
ttcgcaagg gattgccagg	480
gttcgccaag atctcgacg	
ctgatcaa at ta gctgttt	
aaggcttgct caagtgggt	540
aatgatgctc cgagtcgcgc	
gacgatacga tgccgcctca	
gacagtgttc tgccgcgaa	600
caaccaagcg tacactcgcg	
acaactaccg caaggctggc	
atggcctacg tcatcgagga	660
tctactgcac ttctgccgg	
gcatgtactc tatggcggtt	
gacaacatcc attacgcgt	720
gctcacggct gtcgtcatct	
tttctgaccg gcoagggttt	
gagcagccgc aactgggtgg	780
agaaatccag cggtaactacc	
tgaatacgct ccgcacatctat	
atcctgaacc agctgagcgg	840
gtcggcgcgt tcgtccgtca	
tatacgcaa gatcctctca	
atcctctctg agctacgcac	900
gctcggcatg caaaactcca	
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<210> 6  
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 <212> DNA

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&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; misc\_feature

&lt;223&gt; Novel Sequence

<400> 6	
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aagagcgccg tctactgtcg caagttcggt cgccctgcg aaatggacat gtacatgagg	180
cgtaaagtgtc aggagtgcgc cctgaaaaag tgccctggccg tgggtatgcg gccgaaatgc	240
gtcgcccgg agaaccaatg tgcgatgaag cggcgcaaaa agaaggccca gaaggagaag	300
gacaaaaatga coacttcgccc gagctctcag catggcgca atggcagctt ggctctgg	360
ggcggccaag actttgttaa gaaggagatt ctigaccta tgacatgcg gccgccccag	420
catgcccacta ttccgctact acctgatgaa atattggca agtgtcaagc gcgcaatata	480
ccttccttaa cgtacaatca gttggccgtt atatacaagt taattttgtt ccaggatggc	540
tatgagcagc catctgaaga ggatctcagg cgtataatga gtcaacccga tgagaacgag	600
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attgttgagt ttgctaaagg tctaccagcg ttacaaaaga taccccagga ggaccagatc	720
acgttactaa aggccctgctc gtcggagggtg atgatgtgc gtatggcacg acgctatgac	780
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ccggccctgg agaaggccca actagtcgaa gcgttccaga gctactacat cgacacgcta	1020
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cagacgcaac tccagccaca gattcaacca cagccacagc tccttccctgt ctccgctccc	1560
gtgcccgcct ccgtaaaccgc acctgggtcc ttgtccggc tgactacgag cagcgaatac	1620
atggccggaa gtgcggccat aggaccatc acgcccggaa ccaccagcag tatcacggct	1680
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gttgggtgg	gcccacgt	cagcatgtat	gcgaacgccc	agacggcgat	ggccttgatg	1800
ggtagccc	tgcattcgca	ccaagagcag	cttatcgaaa	gagtggcggt	taagtcggag	1860
cactcgacga	ctgcata	7				1878

<210> 7  
 <211> 1752  
 <212> DNA  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
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 <223> Novel Sequence

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	ccggagaacc	aatgtgcgtat	gaagcggcgc	gaaaagaagg	cccagaagga	gaaggacaaa	180
	atgaccactt	cggcgagctc	tcagcatgjc	ggcaatggca	gcttggcctc	tggtggcgcc	240
	caagactttt	ttaagaagga	gattcttgac	cttatgacat	gcgagccgccc	ccagcatgccc	300
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	ttaacgtaca	atcagttggc	cgttatatac	aagttaattt	ggtaccagga	tggctatgag	420
	cagccatctg	aagaggatct	cagggctata	atgagtcaac	ccgatgagaa	cgagagccaa	480
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	tcggactcaa	tattcttcgc	gaataataga	tcatatacgc	gggattctta	caaaatggcc	720
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	tcgatcctca	ccgagctgcg	tacgctgggc	aaccagaacg	ccgagatgtg	tttctacta	1020
	aagctcaaaa	accgcaaact	gccaatgtt	ctcgaggaga	tctggacgt	tcatgccatc	1080
	ccgccatcg	tccagtcgca	ccttcagatt	accaggagg	agaacgagcg	tctcgagcgg	1140
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	gcctccactt	ccggccggcggc	agccgcggcc	cagcatcgc	ctcagcctca	gccccagccc	1260
	caaccctcct	ccctgaccca	gaacgattcc	cagcaccaga	cacagccgca	gctacaacct	1320
	cagctaccac	ctcagctgca	aggtaactg	caaccccagc	tccaaccaca	gcttcagacg	1380

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caactccagc cacagattca accacagcca cagtccttc ccgtaatccgc tcccggtgcc	1440
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<212> DNA  
<213> Artificial Sequence

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<223> Novel Sequence

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gaggaccaga tcacgttact aaaggcctgc tcgtcgagg tgatgtatgc gcgtatggca	540
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gttggagtcg gtgtgggggt gggcggcaac gtcagcatgt atgcgaacgc ccagacggcg	1560
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 <212> DNA  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
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gttgggtgg	gcccacacgt	cagcatgtat	gcgaacgccc	agacggcgat	ggccttgcgt	1260
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cactcgacga	ctgcata					1338

<210> 10  
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<212> DNA  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<221> misc\_feature  
<223> Novel Sequence

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<210> 11  
<211> 412  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
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<223> Novel Sequence

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Lys Gly Pro Ala Pro Arg Gln Gln Glu Glu Leu Cys Leu Val Cys Gly  
 1 5 10 15

Asp Arg Ala Ser Gly Tyr His Tyr Asn Ala Leu Thr Cys Glu Gly Cys  
 20 25 30

Lys Gly Phe Phe Arg Arg Ser Val Thr Lys Asn Ala Val Tyr Ile Cys  
 35 40 45

Lys Phe Gly His Ala Cys Glu Met Asp Met Tyr Met Arg Arg Lys Cys  
 50 55 60

Gln Glu Cys Arg Leu Lys Lys Cys Leu Ala Val Gly Met Arg Pro Glu  
 65 70 75 80

Cys Val Val Pro Glu Thr Gln Cys Ala Met Lys Arg Lys Glu Lys Lys  
 85 90 95

Ala Gln Lys Glu Lys Asp Lys Leu Pro Val Ser Thr Thr Val Asp  
 100 105 110

Asp His Met Pro Pro Ile Met Gln Cys Glu Pro Pro Pro Pro Glu Ala  
 115 120 125

Ala Arg Ile His Glu Val Val Pro Arg Phe Leu Ser Asp Lys Leu Leu  
 130 135 140

Glu Thr Asn Arg Gln Lys Asn Ile Pro Gln Leu Thr Ala Asn Gln Gln  
 145 150 155 160

Phe Leu Ile Ala Arg Leu Ile Trp Tyr Gln Asp Gly Tyr Glu Gln Pro  
 165 170 175

Ser Asp Glu Asp Leu Lys Arg Ile Thr Gln Thr Trp Gln Gln Ala Asp  
 180 185 190

Asp Glu Asn Glu Glu Ser Asp Thr Pro Phe Arg Gln Ile Thr Glu Met  
 195 200 205

Thr Ile Leu Thr Val Gln Leu Ile Val Glu Phe Ala Lys Gly Leu Pro  
 210 215 220

Gly Phe Ala Lys Ile Ser Gln Pro Asp Gln Ile Thr Leu Leu Lys Ala  
 225 230 235 240

Cys Ser Ser Glu Val Met Met Leu Arg Val Ala Arg Arg Tyr Asp Ala  
 245 250 255

Ala Ser Asp Ser Val Leu Phe Ala Asn Asn Gln Ala Tyr Thr Arg Asp  
 260 265 270

Asn Tyr Arg Lys Ala Gly Met Ala Tyr Val Ile Glu Asp Leu Leu His  
 275 280 285

Phe Cys Arg Cys Met Tyr Ser Met Ala Leu Asp Asn Ile His Tyr Ala  
 290 295 300

Leu Leu Thr Ala Val Val Ile Phe Ser Asp Arg Pro Gly Leu Glu Gln  
 305 310 315 320

Pro Gln Leu Val Glu Glu Ile Gln Arg Tyr Tyr Leu Asn Thr Leu Arg

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 325                    330                    335

Ile Tyr Ile Leu Asn Gln Leu Ser Gly Ser Ala Arg Ser Ser Val Ile  
 340                    345                    350

Tyr Gly Lys Ile Leu Ser Ile Leu Ser Glu Leu Arg Thr Leu Gly Met  
 355                    360                    365

Gln Asn Ser Asn Met Cys Ile Ser Leu Lys Leu Lys Asn Arg Lys Leu  
 370                    375                    380

Pro Pro Phe Leu Glu Glu Ile Trp Asp Val Ala Asp Met Ser His Thr  
 385                    390                    395                    400

Gln Pro Pro Pro Ile Leu Glu Ser Pro Thr Asn Leu  
 405                    410

<210> 12

<211> 412

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<221> misc\_feature

<223> Novel Sequence

<400> 12

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Asp Arg Ala Ser Gly Tyr His Tyr Asn Ala Leu Thr Cys Glu Gly Cys  
 20                    25                    30

Lys Gly Phe Phe Arg Arg Ser Val Thr Lys Asn Ala Val Tyr Ile Cys  
 35                    40                    45

Lys Phe Gly His Ala Cys Glu Met Asp Met Tyr Met Arg Arg Lys Cys  
 50                    55                    60

Gln Glu Cys Arg Leu Lys Lys Cys Leu Ala Val Gly Met Arg Pro Glu  
 65                    70                    75                    80

Cys Val Val Pro Glu Thr Gln Cys Ala Met Lys Arg Lys Glu Lys Lys  
 85                    90                    95

Ala Gln Lys Glu Lys Asp Lys Leu Pro Val Ser Thr Thr Val Asp  
 100                    105                    110

Asp His Met Pro Pro Ile Met Gln Cys Glu Pro Pro Pro Pro Glu Ala  
 115                    120                    125

Ala Arg Ile His Glu Val Val Pro Arg Phe Leu Ser Asp Lys Leu Leu  
 130                    135                    140

Glu Thr Asn Arg Gln Lys Asn Ile Pro Gln Leu Thr Ala Asn Gln Gln  
 145                    150                    155                    160

Phe Leu Ile Ala Arg Leu Ile Trp Tyr Gln Asp Gly Tyr Glu Gln Pro  
 165                    170                    175

Ser Asp Glu Asp Leu Lys Arg Ile Thr Gln Thr Trp Gln Gln Ala Asp  
 180                    185                    190

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Asp Glu Asn Glu Glu Ser Asp Thr Pro Phe Arg Gln Ile Thr Glu Met  
 195 200 205

Thr Ile Leu Thr Val Gln Leu Ile Val Glu Phe Ala Lys Gly Leu Pro  
 210 215 220

Gly Phe Ala Lys Ile Ser Gln Pro Asp Gln Ile Thr Leu Leu Lys Ala  
 225 230 235 240

Cys Ser Ser Glu Val Met Met Leu Arg Val Ala Arg Arg Tyr Asp Ala  
 245 250 255

Ala Ser Asp Ser Val Leu Phe Ala Asn Asn Gln Ala Tyr Thr Arg Asp  
 260 265 270

Asn Tyr Arg Lys Ala Gly Met Ala Tyr Val Ile Glu Asp Leu Leu His  
 275 280 285

Phe Cys Arg Cys Met Tyr Ser Met Ala Leu Asp Asn Ile His Tyr Ala  
 290 295 300

Leu Leu Thr Ala Val Val Ile Phe Ser Asp Arg Pro Gly Leu Glu Gln  
 305 310 315 320

Pro Gln Leu Val Glu Glu Ile Gln Arg Tyr Tyr Leu Asn Thr Leu Arg  
 325 330 335

Ile Tyr Ile Leu Asn Gln Leu Ser Gly Ser Ala Arg Ser Ser Val Ile  
 340 345 350

Tyr Gly Lys Ile Leu Ser Ile Leu Ser Glu Leu Arg Thr Leu Gly Met  
 355 360 365

Gln Asn Ser Asn Met Cys Ile Ser Leu Lys Leu Lys Asn Arg Lys Leu  
 370 375 380

Pro Pro Phe Leu Glu Glu Ile Trp Asp Val Ala Asp Met Ser His Thr  
 385 390 395 400

Gln Pro Pro Pro Ile Leu Glu Ser Pro Thr Asn Leu  
 405 410

<210> 13  
 <211> 334  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <221> misc feature  
 <223> Novel Sequence

<400> 13

Pro Glu Cys Val Val Pro Glu Thr Gln Cys Ala Met Lys Arg Lys Glu  
 1 5 10 15

Lys Lys Ala Gln Lys Glu Lys Asp Lys Leu Pro Val Ser Thr Thr Thr  
 20 25 30

Val Asp Asp His Met Pro Pro Ile Met Gln Cys Glu Pro Pro Pro Pro  
 35 40 45

Glu Ala Ala Arg Ile His Glu Val Val Pro Arg Phe Leu Ser Asp Lys  
 50 55 60

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Leu Leu Glu Thr Asn Arg Gln Lys Asn Ile Pro Gln Leu Thr Ala Asn  
 65 70 75 80

Gln Gln Phe Leu Ile Ala Arg Leu Ile Trp Tyr Gln Asp Gly Tyr Glu  
 85 90 95

Gln Pro Ser Asp Glu Asp Leu Lys Arg Ile Thr Gln Thr Trp Gln Gln  
 100 105 110

Ala Asp Asp Glu Asn Glu Glu Ser Asp Thr Pro Phe Arg Gln Ile Thr  
 115 120 125

Glu Met Thr Ile Leu Thr Val Gln Leu Ile Val Glu Phe Ala Lys Gly  
 130 135 140

Leu Pro Gly Phe Ala Lys Ile Ser Gln Pro Asp Gln Ile Thr Leu Leu  
 145 150 155 160

Lys Ala Cys Ser Ser Glu Val Met Met Leu Arg Val Ala Arg Arg Tyr  
 165 170 175

Asp Ala Ala Ser Asp Ser Val Leu Phe Ala Asn Asn Gln Ala Tyr Thr  
 180 185 190

Arg Asp Asn Tyr Arg Lys Ala Gly Met Ala Tyr Val Ile Glu Asp Leu  
 195 200 205

Leu His Phe Cys Arg Cys Met Tyr Ser Met Ala Leu Asp Asn Ile His  
 210 215 220

Tyr Ala Leu Leu Thr Ala Val Val Ile Phe Ser Asp Arg Pro Gly Leu  
 225 230 235 240

Glu Gln Pro Gln Leu Val Glu Glu Ile Gln Arg Tyr Tyr Leu Asn Thr  
 245 250 255

Leu Arg Ile Tyr Ile Leu Asn Gln Leu Ser Gly Ser Ala Arg Ser Ser  
 260 265 270

Val Ile Tyr Gly Lys Ile Leu Ser Ile Leu Ser Glu Leu Arg Thr Leu  
 275 280 285

Gly Met Gln Asn Ser Asn Met Cys Ile Ser Leu Lys Leu Lys Asn Arg  
 290 295 300

Lys Leu Pro Pro Phe Leu Glu Glu Ile Trp Asp Val Ala Asp Met Ser  
 305 310 315 320

His Thr Gln Pro Pro Pro Ile Leu Glu Ser Pro Thr Asn Leu  
 325 330

<210> 14  
 <211> 244  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <223> Novel Sequence

<400> 14  
 Tyr Gln Asp Gly Tyr Glu Gln Pro Ser Asp Glu Asp Leu Lys Arg Ile

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1	5	10	15
Thr Gln Thr Trp Gln Gln Ala Asp Asp Glu Asn Glu Glu Ser Asp Thr			
20	25	30	
Pro Phe Arg Gln Ile Thr Glu Met Thr Ile Leu Thr Val Gln Leu Ile			
35	40	45	
Val Glu Phe Ala Lys Gly Leu Pro Gly Phe Ala Lys Ile Ser Gln Pro			
50	55	60	
Asp Gln Ile Thr Leu Leu Lys Ala Cys Ser Ser Glu Val Met Met Leu			
65	70	75	80
Arg Val Ala Arg Arg Tyr Asp Ala Ala Ser Asp Ser Val Leu Phe Ala			
85	90	95	
Asn Asn Gln Ala Tyr Thr Arg Asp Asn Tyr Arg Lys Ala Gly Met Ala			
100	105	110	
Tyr Val Ile Glu Asp Leu Leu His Phe Cys Arg Cys Met Tyr Ser Met			
115	120	125	
Ala Leu Asp Asn Ile His Tyr Ala Leu Leu Thr Ala Val Val Ile Phe			
130	135	140	
Ser Asp Arg Pro Gly Leu Glu Gln Pro Gln Leu Val Glu Glu Ile Gln			
145	150	155	160
Arg Tyr Tyr Leu Asn Thr Leu Arg Ile Tyr Ile Leu Asn Gln Leu Ser			
165	170	175	
Gly Ser Ala Arg Ser Ser Val Ile Tyr Gly Lys Ile Leu Ser Ile Leu			
180	185	190	
Ser Glu Leu Arg Thr Leu Gly Met Gln Asn Ser Asn Met Cys Ile Ser			
195	200	205	
Leu Lys Leu Lys Asn Arg Lys Leu Pro Pro Phe Leu Glu Glu Ile Trp			
210	215	220	
Asp Val Ala Asp Met Ser His Thr Gln Pro Pro Pro Ile Leu Glu Ser			
225	230	235	240
Pro Thr Asn Leu			

<210> 15  
 <211> 320  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <223> Novel Sequence

<400> 15

1	5	10	15
Pro Glu Cys Val Val Pro Glu Thr Gln Cys Ala Met Lys Arg Lys Glu			
20	25	30	
Lys Lys Ala Gln Lys Glu Lys Asp Lys Leu Pro Val Ser Thr Thr Thr			

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Val Asp Asp His Met Pro Pro Ile Met Gln Cys Glu Pro Pro Pro Pro  
 35 40 45

Glu Ala Ala Arg Ile His Glu Val Val Pro Arg Phe Leu Ser Asp Lys  
 50 55 60

Leu Leu Glu Thr Asn Arg Gln Lys Asn Ile Pro Gln Leu Thr Ala Asn  
 65 70 75 80

Gln Gln Phe Leu Ile Ala Arg Leu Ile Trp Tyr Gln Asp Gly Tyr Glu  
 85 90 95

Gln Pro Ser Asp Glu Asp Leu Lys Arg Ile Thr Gln Thr Trp Gln Gln  
 100 105 110

Ala Asp Asp Glu Asn Glu Glu Ser Asp Thr Pro Phe Arg Gln Ile Thr  
 115 120 125

Glu Met Thr Ile Leu Thr Val Gln Leu Ile Val Glu Phe Ala Lys Gly  
 130 135 140

Leu Pro Gly Phe Ala Lys Ile Ser Gln Pro Asp Gln Ile Thr Leu Leu  
 145 150 155 160

Lys Ala Cys Ser Ser Glu Val Met Met Leu Arg Val Ala Arg Arg Tyr  
 165 170 175

Asp Ala Ala Ser Asp Ser Val Leu Phe Ala Asn Asn Gln Ala Tyr Thr  
 180 185 190

Arg Asp Asn Tyr Arg Lys Ala Gly Met Ala Tyr Val Ile Glu Asp Leu  
 195 200 205

Leu His Phe Cys Arg Cys Met Tyr Ser Met Ala Leu Asp Asn Ile His  
 210 215 220

Tyr Ala Leu Leu Thr Ala Val Val Ile Phe Ser Asp Arg Pro Gly Leu  
 225 230 235 240

Glu Gln Pro Gln Leu Val Glu Glu Ile Gln Arg Tyr Tyr Leu Asn Thr  
 245 250 255

Leu Arg Ile Tyr Ile Leu Asn Gln Leu Ser Gly Ser Ala Arg Ser Ser  
 260 265 270

Val Ile Tyr Gly Lys Ile Leu Ser Ile Leu Ser Glu Leu Arg Thr Leu  
 275 280 285

Gly Met Gln Asn Ser Asn Met Cys Ile Ser Leu Lys Leu Lys Asn Arg  
 290 295 300

Lys Leu Pro Pro Phe Leu Glu Glu Ile Trp Asp Val Ala Asp Met Ser  
 305 310 315 320

&lt;210&gt; 16

&lt;211&gt; 625

&lt;212&gt; PRT

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;220&gt;

&lt;221&gt; misc\_feature

&lt;223&gt; Novel Sequence

&lt;400&gt; 16

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Gly Pro Ala Pro Arg Val Gln Glu Glu Leu Cys Leu Val Cys Gly Asp  
 1 5 10 15

Arg Ala Ser Gly Tyr His Tyr Asn Ala Leu Thr Cys Glu Gly Cys Lys  
 20 25 30

Gly Phe Phe Arg Arg Ser Val Thr Lys Ser Ala Val Tyr Cys Cys Lys  
 35 40 45

Phe Gly Arg Ala Cys Glu Met Asp Met Tyr Met Arg Arg Lys Cys Gln  
 50 55 60

Glu Cys Arg Leu Lys Lys Cys Leu Ala Val Gly Met Arg Pro Glu Cys  
 65 70 75 80

Val Val Pro Glu Asn Gln Cys Ala Met Lys Arg Arg Glu Lys Lys Ala  
 85 90 95

Gln Lys Glu Lys Asp Lys Met Thr Thr Ser Pro Ser Ser Gln His Gly  
 100 105 110

Gly Asn Gly Ser Leu Ala Ser Gly Gly Gln Asp Phe Val Lys Lys  
 115 120 125

Glu Ile Leu Asp Leu Met Thr Cys Glu Pro Pro Gln His Ala Thr Ile  
 130 135 140

Pro Leu Leu Pro Asp Glu Ile Leu Ala Lys Cys Gln Ala Arg Asn Ile  
 145 150 155 160

Pro Ser Leu Thr Tyr Asn Gln Leu Ala Val Ile Tyr Lys Leu Ile Trp  
 165 170 175

Tyr Gln Asp Gly Tyr Glu Gln Pro Ser Glu Glu Asp Leu Arg Arg Ile  
 180 185 190

Met Ser Gln Pro Asp Glu Asn Glu Ser Gln Thr Asp Val Ser Phe Arg  
 195 200 205

His Ile Thr Glu Ile Thr Ile Leu Thr Val Gln Leu Ile Val Glu Phe  
 210 215 220

Ala Lys Gly Leu Pro Ala Phe Thr Lys Ile Pro Gln Glu Asp Gln Ile  
 225 230 235 240

Thr Leu Leu Lys Ala Cys Ser Ser Glu Val Met Met Leu Arg Met Ala  
 245 250 255

Arg Arg Tyr Asp His Ser Ser Asp Ser Ile Phe Phe Ala Asn Asn Arg  
 260 265 270

Ser Tyr Thr Arg Asp Ser Tyr Lys Met Ala Gly Met Ala Asp Asn Ile  
 275 280 285

Glu Asp Leu Leu His Phe Cys Arg Gln Met Phe Ser Met Lys Val Asp  
 290 295 300

Asn Val Glu Tyr Ala Leu Leu Thr Ala Ile Val Ile Phe Ser Asp Arg  
 305 310 315 320

Pro Gly Leu Glu Lys Ala Gln Leu Val Glu Ala Ile Gln Ser Tyr Tyr  
 325 330 335

Ile Asp Thr Leu Arg Ile Tyr Ile Leu Asn Arg His Cys Gly Asp Ser

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340	345	350	
Met Ser Leu Val Phe Tyr Ala Lys Leu Leu Ser Ile Leu Thr Glu Leu			
355	360	365	
Arg Thr Leu Gly Asn Gln Asn Ala Glu Met Cys Phe Ser Leu Lys Leu			
370	375	380	
Lys Asn Arg Lys Leu Pro Lys Phe Leu Glu Glu Ile Trp Asp Val His			
385	390	395	400
Ala Ile Pro Pro Ser Val Gln Ser His Leu Gln Ile Thr Gln Glu Glu			
405	410	415	
Asn Glu Arg Leu Glu Arg Ala Glu Arg Met Arg Ala Ser Val Gly Gly			
420	425	430	
Ala Ile Thr Ala Gly Ile Asp Cys Asp Ser Ala Ser Thr Ser Ala Ala			
435	440	445	
Ala Ala Ala Ala Gln His Gln Pro Gln Pro Gln Pro Gln Pro			
450	455	460	
Ser Ser Leu Thr Gln Asn Asp Ser Gln His Gln Thr Gln Pro Gln Leu			
465	470	475	480
Gln Pro Gln Leu Pro Pro Gln Leu Gln Gly Gln Leu Gln Pro Gln Leu			
485	490	495	
Gln Pro Gln Leu Gln Thr Gln Leu Gln Pro Gln Ile Gln Pro Gln Pro			
500	505	510	
Gln Leu Leu Pro Val Ser Ala Pro Val Pro Ala Ser Val Thr Ala Pro			
515	520	525	
Gly Ser Leu Ser Ala Val Ser Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Met Gly Gly Ser			
530	535	540	
Ala Ala Ile Gly Pro Ile Thr Pro Ala Thr Thr Ser Ser Ile Thr Ala			
545	550	555	560
Ala Val Thr Ala Ser Ser Thr Thr Ser Ala Val Pro Met Gly Asn Gly			
565	570	575	
Val Gly Val Gly Val Gly Gly Asn Val Ser Met Tyr Ala Asn			
580	585	590	
Ala Gln Thr Ala Met Ala Leu Met Gly Val Ala Leu His Ser His Gln			
595	600	605	
Glu Gln Leu Ile Gly Gly Val Ala Val Lys Ser Glu His Ser Thr Thr			
610	615	620	
Ala			
625			
<210> 17			
<211> 583			
<212> PRT			
<213> Artificial Sequence			
<220>			
<221> misc_feature			
<223> Novel Sequence			

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&lt;400&gt; 17

Ala Val Tyr Cys Cys Lys Phe Gly Arg Ala Cys Glu Met Asp Met Tyr  
 1 5 10 15

Met Arg Arg Lys Cys Gln Glu Cys Arg Leu Lys Lys Cys Leu Ala Val  
 20 25 30

Gly Met Arg Pro Glu Cys Val Val Pro Glu Asn Gln Cys Ala Met Lys  
 35 40 45

Arg Arg Glu Lys Lys Ala Gln Lys Glu Lys Asp Lys Met Thr Thr Ser  
 50 55 60

Pro Ser Ser Gln His Gly Gly Asn Gly Ser Leu Ala Ser Gly Gly Gly  
 65 70 75 80

Gln Asp Phe Val Lys Lys Glu Ile Leu Asp Leu Met Thr Cys Glu Pro  
 85 90 95

Pro Gln His Ala Thr Ile Pro Leu Leu Pro Asp Glu Ile Leu Ala Lys  
 100 105 110

Cys Gln Ala Arg Asn Ile Pro Ser Leu Thr Tyr Asn Gln Leu Ala Val  
 115 120 125

Ile Tyr Lys Leu Ile Trp Tyr Gln Asp Gly Tyr Glu Gln Pro Ser Glu  
 130 135 140

Glu Asp Leu Arg Arg Ile Met Ser Gln Pro Asp Glu Asn Glu Ser Gln  
 145 150 155 160

Thr Asp Val Ser Phe Arg His Ile Thr Glu Ile Thr Ile Leu Thr Val  
 165 170 175

Gln Leu Ile Val Glu Phe Ala Lys Gly Leu Pro Ala Phe Thr Lys Ile  
 180 185 190

Pro Gln Glu Asp Gln Ile Thr Leu Leu Lys Ala Cys Ser Ser Glu Val  
 195 200 205

Met Met Leu Arg Met Ala Arg Arg Tyr Asp His Ser Ser Asp Ser Ile  
 210 215 220

Phe Phe Ala Asn Asn Arg Ser Tyr Thr Arg Asp Ser Tyr Lys Met Ala  
 225 230 235 240

Gly Met Ala Asp Asn Ile Glu Asp Leu Leu His Phe Cys Arg Gln Met  
 245 250 255

Phe Ser Met Lys Val Asp Asn Val Glu Tyr Ala Leu Leu Thr Ala Ile  
 260 265 270

Val Ile Phe Ser Asp Arg Pro Gly Leu Glu Lys Ala Gln Leu Val Glu  
 275 280 285

Ala Ile Gln Ser Tyr Tyr Ile Asp Thr Leu Arg Ile Tyr Ile Leu Asn  
 290 295 300

Arg His Cys Gly Asp Ser Met Ser Leu Val Phe Tyr Ala Lys Leu Leu  
 305 310 315 320

Ser Ile Leu Thr Glu Leu Arg Thr Leu Gly Asn Gln Asn Ala Glu Met  
 325 330 335

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Cys Phe Ser Leu Lys Leu Lys Asn Arg Lys Leu Pro Lys Phe Leu Glu  
 340 345 350  
 Glu Ile Trp Asp Val His Ala Ile Pro Pro Ser Val Gln Ser His Leu  
 355 360 365  
 Gln Ile Thr Gln Glu Glu Asn Glu Arg Leu Glu Arg Ala Glu Arg Met  
 370 375 380  
 Arg Ala Ser Val Gly Gly Ala Ile Thr Ala Gly Ile Asp Cys Asp Ser  
 385 390 395 400  
 Ala Ser Thr Ser Ala Ala Ala Ala Ala Gln His Gln Pro Gln Pro  
 405 410 415  
 Gln Pro Gln Pro Gln Pro Ser Ser Leu Thr Gln Asn Asp Ser Gln His  
 420 425 430  
 Gln Thr Gln Pro Gln Leu Gln Pro Gln Leu Pro Pro Gln Leu Gln Gly  
 435 440 445  
 Gln Leu Gln Pro Gln Leu Gln Pro Gln Leu Gln Thr Gln Leu Gln Pro  
 450 455 460  
 Gln Ile Gln Pro Gln Leu Leu Pro Val Ser Ala Pro Val Pro  
 465 470 475 480  
 Ala Ser Val Thr Ala Pro Gly Ser Leu Ser Ala Val Ser Thr Ser Ser  
 485 490 495  
 Glu Tyr Met Gly Gly Ser Ala Ala Ile Gly Pro Ile Thr Pro Ala Thr  
 500 505 510  
 Thr Ser Ser Ile Thr Ala Ala Val Thr Ala Ser Ser Thr Thr Ser Ala  
 515 520 525  
 Val Pro Met Gly Asn Gly Val Gly Val Gly Val Gly Gly Asn  
 530 535 540  
 Val Ser Met Tyr Ala Asn Ala Gln Thr Ala Met Ala Leu Met Gly Val  
 545 550 555 560  
 Ala Leu His Ser His Gln Glu Gln Leu Ile Gly Gly Val Ala Val Lys  
 565 570 575  
 Ser Glu His Ser Thr Thr Ala  
 580  
 <210> 18  
 <211> 549  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence  
 <400> 18  
 Arg Pro Glu Cys Val Val Pro Glu Asn Gln Cys Ala Met Lys Arg Arg  
 1 5 10 15  
 Glu Lys Lys Ala Gln Lys Glu Lys Asp Lys Met Thr Thr Ser Pro Ser  
 20 25 30  
 Ser Gln His Gly Gly Asn Gly Ser Leu Ala Ser Gly Gly Gln Asp  
 35 40 45

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Phe Val Lys Lys Glu Ile Leu Asp Leu Met Thr Cys Glu Pro Pro Gln  
 50 55 60

His Ala Thr Ile Pro Leu Leu Pro Asp Glu Ile Leu Ala Lys Cys Gln  
 65 70 75 80

Ala Arg Asn Ile Pro Ser Leu Thr Tyr Asn Gln Leu Ala Val Ile Tyr  
 85 90 95

Lys Leu Ile Trp Tyr Gln Asp Gly Tyr Glu Gln Pro Ser Glu Glu Asp  
 100 105 110

Leu Arg Arg Ile Met Ser Gln Pro Asp Glu Asn Glu Ser Gln Thr Asp  
 115 120 125

Val Ser Phe Arg His Ile Thr Glu Ile Thr Ile Leu Thr Val Gln Leu  
 130 135 140

Ile Val Glu Phe Ala Lys Gly Leu Pro Ala Phe Thr Lys Ile Pro Gln  
 145 150 155 160

Glu Asp Gln Ile Thr Leu Leu Lys Ala Cys Ser Ser Glu Val Met Met  
 165 170 175

Leu Arg Met Ala Arg Arg Tyr Asp His Ser Ser Asp Ser Ile Phe Phe  
 180 185 190

Ala Asn Asn Arg Ser Tyr Thr Arg Asp Ser Tyr Lys Met Ala Gly Met  
 195 200 205

Ala Asp Asn Ile Glu Asp Leu Leu His Phe Cys Arg Gln Met Phe Ser  
 210 215 220

Met Lys Val Asp Asn Val Glu Tyr Ala Leu Leu Thr Ala Ile Val Ile  
 225 230 235 240

Phe Ser Asp Arg Pro Gly Leu Glu Lys Ala Gln Leu Val Glu Ala Ile  
 245 250 255

Gln Ser Tyr Tyr Ile Asp Thr Leu Arg Ile Tyr Ile Leu Asn Arg His  
 260 265 270

Cys Gly Asp Ser Met Ser Leu Val Phe Tyr Ala Lys Leu Leu Ser Ile  
 275 280 285

Leu Thr Glu Leu Arg Thr Leu Gly Asn Gln Asn Ala Glu Met Cys Phe  
 290 295 300

Ser Leu Lys Leu Lys Asn Arg Lys Leu Pro Lys Phe Leu Glu Glu Ile  
 305 310 315 320

Trp Asp Val His Ala Ile Pro Pro Ser Val Gln Ser His Leu Gln Ile  
 325 330 335

Thr Gln Glu Glu Asn Glu Arg Leu Glu Arg Ala Glu Arg Met Arg Ala  
 340 345 350

Ser Val Gly Gly Ala Ile Thr Ala Gly Ile Asp Cys Asp Ser Ala Ser  
 355 360 365

Thr Ser Ala Ala Ala Ala Ala Ala Gln His Gln Pro Gln Pro Gln Pro  
 370 375 380

Gln Pro Gln Pro Ser Ser Leu Thr Gln Asn Asp Ser Gln His Gln Thr  
 385 390 395 400

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Gln Pro Gln Leu Gln Pro Gln Leu Pro Pro Gln Leu Gln Gly Gln Leu  
 405 410 415

Gln Pro Gln Leu Gln Pro Gln Leu Gln Thr Gln Leu Gln Pro Gln Ile  
 420 425 430

Gln Pro Gln Pro Gln Leu Leu Pro Val Ser Ala Pro Val Pro Ala Ser  
 435 440 445

Val Thr Ala Pro Gly Ser Leu Ser Ala Val Ser Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr  
 450 455 460

Met Gly Gly Ser Ala Ala Ile Gly Pro Ile Thr Pro Ala Thr Thr Ser  
 465 470 475 480

Ser Ile Thr Ala Ala Val Thr Ala Ser Ser Thr Thr Ser Ala Val Pro  
 485 490 495

Met Gly Asn Gly Val Gly Val Gly Val Gly Gly Asn Val Ser  
 500 505 510

Met Tyr Ala Asn Ala Gln Thr Ala Met Ala Leu Met Gly Val Ala Leu  
 515 520 525

His Ser His Gln Glu Gln Leu Ile Gly Gly Val Ala Val Lys Ser Glu  
 530 535 540

His Ser Thr Thr Ala  
 545

<210> 19  
 <211> 445  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<400> 19

Tyr Glu Gln Pro Ser Glu Glu Asp Leu Arg Arg Ile Met Ser Gln Pro  
 1 5 10 15

Asp Glu Asn Glu Ser Gln Thr Asp Val Ser Phe Arg His Ile Thr Glu  
 20 25 30

Ile Thr Ile Leu Thr Val Gln Leu Ile Val Glu Phe Ala Lys Gly Leu  
 35 40 45

Pro Ala Phe Thr Lys Ile Pro Gln Glu Asp Gln Ile Thr Leu Leu Lys  
 50 55 60

Ala Cys Ser Ser Glu Val Met Met Leu Arg Met Ala Arg Arg Tyr Asp  
 65 70 75 80

His Ser Ser Asp Ser Ile Phe Phe Ala Asn Asn Arg Ser Tyr Thr Arg  
 85 90 95

Asp Ser Tyr Lys Met Ala Gly Met Ala Asp Asn Ile Glu Asp Leu Leu  
 100 105 110

His Phe Cys Arg Gln Met Phe Ser Met Lys Val Asp Asn Val Glu Tyr  
 115 120 125

Ala Leu Leu Thr Ala Ile Val Ile Phe Ser Asp Arg Pro Gly Leu Glu  
 130 135 140

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Lys Ala Gln Leu Val Glu Ala Ile Gln Ser Tyr Tyr Ile Asp Thr Leu  
 145 150 155 160

Arg Ile Tyr Ile Leu Asn Arg His Cys Gly Asp Ser Met Ser Leu Val  
 165 170 175

Phe Tyr Ala Lys Leu Leu Ser Ile Leu Thr Glu Leu Arg Thr Leu Gly  
 180 185 190

Asn Gln Asn Ala Glu Met Cys Phe Ser Leu Lys Leu Lys Asn Arg Lys  
 195 200 205

Leu Pro Lys Phe Leu Glu Glu Ile Trp Asp Val His Ala Ile Pro Pro  
 210 215 220

Ser Val Gln Ser His Leu Gln Ile Thr Gln Glu Glu Asn Glu Arg Leu  
 225 230 235 240

Glu Arg Ala Glu Arg Met Arg Ala Ser Val Gly Gly Ala Ile Thr Ala  
 245 250 255

Gly Ile Asp Cys Asp Ser Ala Ser Thr Ser Ala Ala Ala Ala Ala  
 260 265 270

Gln His Gln Pro Gln Pro Gln Pro Gln Pro Gln Pro Ser Ser Leu Thr  
 275 280 285

Gln Asn Asp Ser Gln His Gln Thr Gln Pro Gln Leu Gln Pro Gln Leu  
 290 295 300

Pro Pro Gln Leu Gln Gly Gln Leu Gln Pro Gln Leu Gln Pro Gln Leu  
 305 310 315 320

Gln Thr Gln Leu Gln Pro Gln Ile Gln Pro Gln Pro Gln Leu Leu Pro  
 325 330 335

Val Ser Ala Pro Val Pro Ala Ser Val Thr Ala Pro Gly Ser Leu Ser  
 340 345 350

Ala Val Ser Thr Ser Ser Glu Tyr Met Gly Gly Ser Ala Ala Ile Gly  
 355 360 365

Pro Ile Thr Pro Ala Thr Thr Ser Ser Ile Thr Ala Ala Val Thr Ala  
 370 375 380

Ser Ser Thr Thr Ser Ala Val Pro Met Gly Asn Gly Val Gly Val Gly  
 385 390 395 400

Val Gly Val Gly Gly Asn Val Ser Met Tyr Ala Asn Ala Gln Thr Ala  
 405 410 415

Met Ala Leu Met Gly Val Ala Leu His Ser His Gln Glu Gln Leu Ile  
 420 425 430

Gly Gly Val Ala Val Lys Ser Glu His Ser Thr Thr Ala  
 435 440 445

<210> 20  
 <211> 323  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<400> 20

Arg Pro Glu Cys Val Val Pro Glu Asn Gln Cys Ala Met Lys Arg Arg

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1	5	10	15												
Glu	Lys	Lys	Ala	Gln	Lys	Glu	Lys	Asp	Lys	Met	Thr	Thr	Ser	Pro	Ser
20						25				30					
Ser	Gln	His	Gly	Gly	Asn	Gly	Ser	Leu	Ala	Ser	Gly	Gly	Gln	Asp	
35						40				45					
Phe	Val	Lys	Lys	Glu	Ile	Leu	Asp	Leu	Met	Thr	Cys	Glu	Pro	Pro	Gln
50						55			60						
His	Ala	Thr	Ile	Pro	Leu	Leu	Pro	Asp	Glu	Ile	Leu	Ala	Lys	Cys	Gln
65						70			75				80		
Ala	Arg	Asn	Ile	Pro	Ser	Leu	Thr	Tyr	Asn	Gln	Leu	Ala	Val	Ile	Tyr
										90				95	
Lys	Leu	Ile	Trp	Tyr	Gln	Asp	Gly	Tyr	Glu	Gln	Pro	Ser	Glu	Glu	Asp
						100			105				110		
Leu	Arg	Arg	Ile	Met	Ser	Gln	Pro	Asp	Glu	Asn	Glu	Ser	Gln	Thr	Asp
						115			120			125			
Val	Ser	Phe	Arg	His	Ile	Thr	Glu	Ile	Thr	Ile	Leu	Thr	Val	Gln	Leu
						130			135			140			
Ile	Val	Glu	Phe	Ala	Lys	Gly	Leu	Pro	Ala	Phe	Thr	Lys	Ile	Pro	Gln
145						150				155				160	
Glu	Asp	Gln	Ile	Thr	Leu	Leu	Lys	Ala	Cys	Ser	Ser	Glu	Val	Met	Met
									165			170		175	
Leu	Arg	Met	Ala	Arg	Arg	Tyr	Asp	His	Ser	Ser	Asp	Ser	Ile	Phe	Phe
						180			185			190			
Ala	Asn	Asn	Arg	Ser	Tyr	Thr	Arg	Asp	Ser	Tyr	Lys	Met	Ala	Gly	Met
						195			200			205			
Ala	Asp	Asn	Ile	Glu	Asp	Leu	Leu	His	Phe	Cys	Arg	Gln	Met	Phe	Ser
						210			215			220			
Met	Lys	Val	Asp	Asn	Val	Glu	Tyr	Ala	Leu	Leu	Thr	Ala	Ile	Val	Ile
225						230			235				240		
Phe	Ser	Asp	Arg	Pro	Gly	Leu	Glu	Lys	Ala	Gln	Leu	Val	Glu	Ala	Ile
						245			250			255			
Gln	Ser	Tyr	Tyr	Ile	Asp	Thr	Leu	Arg	Ile	Tyr	Ile	Leu	Asn	Arg	His
						260			265			270			
Cys	Gly	Asp	Ser	Met	Ser	Leu	Val	Phe	Tyr	Ala	Lys	Leu	Leu	Ser	Ile
						275			280			285			
Leu	Thr	Glu	Leu	Arg	Thr	Leu	Gly	Asn	Gln	Asn	Ala	Glu	Met	Cys	Phe
						290			295			300			
Ser	Leu	Lys	Leu	Lys	Asn	Arg	Lys	Leu	Pro	Lys	Phe	Leu	Glu	Glu	Ile
						305			310			315		320	
Trp	Asp	Val													

<210> 21  
<211> 987  
<212> DNA

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&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

<400> 21	
tgtgctatct gtggggaccg ctcctcaggc aaacactatg gggatacag ttgtgagggc	60
tgcaaggcgt tttcaagag gacagtacgc aaagacctga cctacacctg ccgagacaac	120
aaggactgcc tgatcgacaa gagacagcgg aaccgggtgc agtactgccg ctaccagaag	180
tgccctggcca tgggcatgaa gcgggaagct gtgcaggagg agcggcagcg gggcaaggac	240
cggaaatgaga acgaggtgga gtccaccaggc agtgccaaacg aggacatgcc tgtagagaag	300
attcttggaaag ccgagcttgc tgtcgagccc aagactgaga catacgtgga ggcaaacatg	360
gggctgaacc ccagctcacc aaatgaccct gttaccaaca tctgtcaagc agcagacaag	420
cagctttca ctcttggaa gtggccaag aggtccac acttttctga gctgccccta	480
gacgaccagg tcatcctgct acggggcaggc tggAACGAGC tgctgatcgc ctccctctcc	540
caccgcctcca tagctgtgaa agatggatt ctccctggca cggcctgca cgtacaccgg	600
aacagcgctc acagtgctgg ggtggcgcc atctttgaca gggctcaac agagctgg	660
tctaagatgc gtgacatgca gatggacaag acggagctgg gctgcctgca agccattgtc	720
ctgttcaacc ctgactctaa ggggctctca aaccctgctg aggtggaggc gttgagggag	780
aagggttatg cgtcactaga agcgtactgc aaacacaagt accctgagca gccccggcagg	840
tttgccttgc tgctgctccg cctgcctgca ctgcgttcca tcgggctcaa gtgcctggag	900
cacctgttct tcttcaagct catcggggac acgcccattcg acaccccttcatggagatg	960
ctggaggcac cacatcaagc cacctag	987

&lt;210&gt; 22

&lt;211&gt; 789

&lt;212&gt; DNA

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

<400> 22	
aagcggaaag ctgtgcagga ggagcggcag cggggcaagg accggaatga gaacgagggtg	60
gagtccacca gcagtgccaa cgaggacatg cctgtagaga agattctgga agccgagctt	120
gctgtcgagc ccaagactga gacatacgtg gaggcaaaca tggggctgaa cccagctca	180
ccaaatgacc ctgttacca catctgtcaa gcagcagaca agcagctctt cactcttgc	240
gagtggccca agaggatccc acactttct gagctgcccc tagacgacca ggtcatcctg	300
ctacggcag gctggaacga gctgctgatc gcctccttct cccaccgctc catagctgt	360
aaagatggaa ttctcctggc caccggctg cacgtacacc ggaacagcgc tcacagtgt	420
ggggtggcgc ccatcttga cagggtgcta acagagctgg tgtctaagat gcgtgacatg	480
cagatggaca agacggagct gggctgcctg cgagccattg tcctgttcaa ccctgactct	540
aagggtcttct caaacccctgc tgaggtggag gcgttgaggg agaagggtgtt tgcgtacta	600
gaagcgtact gcaaacacaa gtaccctgag cagccggca ggtttccaa gctgctgctc	660

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cgcctgcctg	caactgcgttc	catcgggctc	aagtgcctgg	agcacctgtt	cttcttcaag	720
ctcatgggg	acacgcccattc	cgacacccttc	ctcatggaga	tgctggaggc	accacatcaa	780
gccacctag						789

<210> 23  
 <211> 714  
 <212> DNA  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<400> 23	gccaacgagg	acatgcctgt	agagaagatt	cttggaaagccg	agcttgctgt	cgagcccaag	60
	actgagacat	acgtggaggc	aaacatgggg	ctgaacccca	gctcacaaa	tgaccctgtt	120
	accAACatct	gtcaaggcagc	agacaagcag	ctcttcactc	ttgtggagtg	ggccaagagg	180
	atcccacact	tttctgagct	gcccctagac	gaccaggtca	tcctgctacg	ggcaggctgg	240
	aacgagctgc	tgatgcctc	cttctccac	cgctccatag	ctgtgaaaga	tgggattctc	300
	ctggccaccg	gcctgcacgt	acaccggaac	agcgctcaca	gtgctgggt	gggcgcacatc	360
	tttgacaggg	tgctaacaga	gctgggtct	aagatgcgtg	acatgcagat	ggacaagacg	420
	gagctggct	gcctgcgagc	cattgtcctg	ttcaaccctg	actctaaggg	gctctcaaacc	480
	cctgctgagg	tggaggcggt	gagggagaag	gtgtatgcgt	caactagaagc	gtactgc当地	540
	cacaagtacc	ctgagcagcc	gggcagggtt	gccaagctgc	tgctccgcct	gcctgcactg	600
	cgttccatcg	ggctcaagtg	cctggagcac	ctgttcttct	tcaagctcat	cggggacacg	660
	cccatcgaca	ccttcctcat	ggagatgctg	gaggcaccac	atcaagccac	ctag	714

<210> 24  
 <211> 536  
 <212> DNA  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<400> 24	ggatcccaca	cttttctgag	ctgcccctag	acgaccaggt	catcctgcta	cgggcaggct	60
	ggaacgagct	gctgatgcac	tccttctccc	accgctccat	agctgtgaaa	gatgggattc	120
	tcctggccac	cggcctgcac	gtacaccgga	acagcgctca	cagtgtggg	gtgggc当地	180
	tctttgacag	ggtgctaaca	gagctgggt	ctaaagatgcg	tgacatgcag	atggacaaga	240
	cggagctggg	ctgcctgcga	gccattgtcc	tgttcaaccc	tgactctaag	gggctctcaa	300
	accctgctga	ggtggaggcg	ttgagggaga	aggtgtatgc	gtcactagaa	gcgtactgca	360
	aacacaagta	ccctgagcag	ccgggcagggt	ttgccaagct	gctgctccgc	ctgcctgcac	420
	tgcgttccat	cgggctcaag	tgcctggagc	acctgttctt	cttcaagctc	atcggggaca	480
	cggccatcgaa	cacccatcctc	atggagatgc	tggaggcacc	acatcaagcc	acctag	536

<210> 25

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&lt;211&gt; 672

&lt;212&gt; DNA

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;400&gt; 25

gccaacgagg acatgcctgt	agagaagatt ctggaagccg	agcttgcgtg	cgagcccaag	60
actgagacat acgtggaggc	aaacatgggg ctgaacccca	gctcaccaaa	tgaccctgtt	120
accaacatct gtcaagcagc	agacaagcag ctcttcactc	ttgtggagtg	ggccaagagg	180
atcccacact tttctgagct	gcccctagac gaccaggta	tcctgctacg	ggcaggctgg	240
aacgagctgc tgatgcctc	cttctccac cgctccatag	ctgtgaaaga	tggattctc	300
ctggccaccg gcctgcacgt	acaccggaac agcgctcaca	gtgctgggtt	ggcgccatc	360
tttgacaggg tgctaacaga	gctggtgtct aagatgcgtg	acatgcagat	ggacaagacg	420
gagctggct gcctgcgagc	cattgtcctg ttcaaccctg	actctaaggg	gctctcaaac	480
cctgctgagg tggaggcggt	gagggagaag gtgtatgcgt	cactagaagc	gtactgcaaa	540
cacaagtacc ctgagcagcc	gggcaggttt gccaagctgc	tgctccgcct	gcctgcactg	600
cgttccatcg ggctcaagtg	cctggagcac ctgttcttct	tcaagctcat	cggggacacg	660
cccatcgaca cc				672

&lt;210&gt; 26

&lt;211&gt; 1123

&lt;212&gt; DNA

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;400&gt; 26

tgcgccatct gccccggaccg	ctcctcaggc aagcactatg	gagtgtacag	ctgcgagggg	60
tgcaagggtct tttcaagcg	gacgggtgcgc aaggacctga	cctacacctg	ccgcgacaac	120
aaggactgcc tgattgacaa	gcggcagcgg aaccggtgcc	agtactgccc	ctaccagaag	180
tgcctggcca tgggcatgaa	gcgggaagcc gtgcaggagg	agcggcagcg	tggcaaggac	240
cggaaacgaga atgagggtgga	gtcgaccaggc agcgccaacg	aggacatgcc	ggtggagagg	300
atcctggagg ctgagctggc	cgtggagccc aagaccgaga	cctacgtgga	ggcaaacatg	360
gggctgaacc ccagctcgcc	gaacgaccct gtcaccaaca	tttgc当地	agccgacaaa	420
cagctttca ccctgggtgga	gtggccaag cgatcccac	acttctcaga	gctgcccctg	480
gacgaccagg tcatcctgct	gcggcagggc tgaaatgagc	tgctcatcgc	ctccttctcc	540
caccgctcca tcgcccgtgaa	ggacgggatc ctccctggca	ccgggctgca	cgtccaccgg	600
aacagcgccc acagcgcagg	ggtggcgcc atctttgaca	gggtgctgac	ggagcttgc	660
tccaaatgc gggacatgca	gatggacaag acggagctgg	gctgcctgcg	cgccatcg	720
ctctttaacc ctgactccaa	ggggctctcg aaccggccg	aggtggaggc	gctgagggag	780
aaggcttatg cgtcccttgg	ggcctactgc aagcacaagt	acccagagca	gccgggaagg	840
ttcgctaagc tcttgcctccg	cctgcccggct ctgcgtcca	tcgggctcaa	atgcctggaa	900

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catctttctt	tcttcaagct	catcgaaaac	acacccattt	acacccctt	tatggagatg	960
ctggaggcg	cgcaccaaaat	gacttagg	cc	tcctttgtgc	ccacccgttc	1020
tggccacc	cttgcacgc	cagctttctt	tctcagcctg	agccctgtcc	ctggccttct	1080
ctgcctggcc	tgtttggact	ttggggcaca	gcctgtca	ct		1123

<210> 27  
<211> 925  
<212> DNA  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<400> 27						
aagcggaa	ccgtgcagga	ggagcggcag	cgtggcaagg	accggaaacga	aatgagg	60
gagtgcacca	gcagcgccaa	cgaggacatg	ccgggtggaga	ggatcctgga	ggctgagctg	120
gccgtggagc	ccaagaccga	gacctacgtg	gaggcaaaaca	tggggctgaa	ccccagctcg	180
ccgaacgacc	ctgtcaccaa	catttgccaa	gcagccgaca	aacagctttt	caccctgg	240
gagtgggcca	agcggatccc	acacttctca	gagctgcccc	tggacgacca	ggtcatcctg	300
ctgcgggcag	gctggaatga	gctgctcatc	gcctccttct	cccaccgctc	catgcctg	360
aaggacggga	tcctcctggc	caccggctg	cacgtccacc	ggaacagcgc	ccacagcgc	420
gggggtggcg	ccatcttga	cagggtgctg	acggagctt	tgtccaagat	gcgggacatg	480
cagatggaca	agacggagct	gggctgcctg	cgcgcacatg	tcctctttaa	ccctgactcc	540
aaggggctct	cgaacccggc	cgaggtggag	gcgcgtgggg	agaaggctta	tgcgtcctt	600
gaggcctact	gcaagcacaa	gtacccagag	cagccggaa	ggttcgctaa	gctcttgctc	660
cgcctggccgg	ctctgcgc	catcggc	aaatgcctgg	aacatctt	cttcttcaag	720
ctcatcgggg	acacacccat	tgacac	cttatggaga	tgctggaggc	gcccacca	780
atgacttagg	cctgcgggccc	catcctt	gttccacccgt	tctggccacc	ctgcctggac	840
gccagctgtt	cttctcagcc	tgagccctgt	ccctgcctt	ctctgcctgg	cctgtttgg	900
ctttggggca	cagcctgtca	ctgct				925

<210> 28  
<211> 850  
<212> DNA  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<400> 28						
gccaacgagg	acatgcccgt	ggagaggatc	ctggaggctg	agctggccgt	ggagcccaag	60
accgagacct	acgtggaggc	aaacatgggg	ctgaacccca	gctcgccgaa	cgaccctgtc	120
accaacat	gccaagcagc	cgacaaacag	ctttcaccc	tggtggagt	ggccaagcgg	180
atcccacact	tctcagagct	gcccctggac	gaccagg	tctgcgtcg	ggcaggctgg	240
aatgagctgc	tcatgcgc	cttctccac	cgatccatg	ccgtgaagga	cgggatcctc	300

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ctggccaccg ggctgcacgt ccaccggaac agcgcccaca	gcmcaggggt gggcgccatc	360
tttgacaggg tgctgacgga gcttgtgtcc aagatgcggg	acatgcagat ggacaagacg	420
gagctgggct gcctgcgcgc catcgctc	tttaaccctg actccaaggg gctctcgAAC	480
ccggccgagg tggaggcgct gagggagaag gtctatgcgt	ccttggaggc ctactgcaag	540
cacaagtacc cagagcagcc gggaaagggtc	gctaagctct tgctccgcct gccggctctg	600
cgctccatcg ggctcaaattg ccttggAACat	ctcttcttct tcaagctcat cggggacaca	660
cccattgaca ctttcccttat ggagatgctg	gaggcgccgc accaaatgac ttaggcctgc	720
gggcccattcc tttgtgcccc cccgttctgg ccaccctgccc	tggacgcccag ctgttcttct	780
cagcctgagc cctgtccctg cccttctctg	cctggcctgt ttggactttg gggcacagcc	840
tgtcactgct		850

&lt;210&gt; 29

&lt;211&gt; 670

&lt;212&gt; DNA

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;400&gt; 29

atcccacact tctcagagct gcccctggac gaccaggta	tcctgctcg ggcaggctgg	60
aatgagctgc tcatgcgcctc	cttctccac cgctccatcg	120
ctggccaccg ggctgcacgt	ccaccggaac agcgcccaca	180
tttgacaggg tgctgacgga	gcttgtgtcc aagatgcggg	240
gagctgggct gcctgcgcgc	catcgctc	300
ccggccgagg tggaggcgct	gagggagaag gtctatgcgt	360
cacaagtacc cagagcagcc	ggaaagggtc	420
cgctccatcg ggctcaaattg	ccttggAACat	480
cccattgaca ctttcccttat	ggagatgctg	540
gggcccattcc tttgtgcccc	ccccgttctgg ccaccctgccc	600
cagcctgagc cctgtccctg	cccttctctg cctggcctgt	660
tgtcactgct		670

&lt;210&gt; 30

&lt;211&gt; 672

&lt;212&gt; DNA

&lt;213&gt; Artificial Sequence

&lt;400&gt; 30

gccaacgagg acatgccgggt	ggagaggatc ctggaggctg	agctggccgt ggagcccaag	60
accgagacct acgtggaggc	aaacatgggg ctgaacccca	gctcgccgaa cgaccctgtc	120
accaacatcc	gccaaggcgc	cgacaaacag ctttcaccc	180
atcccacact tctcagagct	gcccctggac	gaccaggta	240

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aatgagctgc tcatcgccctc	cttctccac cgctccatcg	ccgtgaagga cgggatcctc	300
ctggccaccg ggctgcacgt	ccaccggaac agcgcccaca	gcfgcaggggt gggcgccatc	360
tttgacaggg tgctgacgga	gcttgtgtcc aagatgcggg	acatgcagat ggacaagacg	420
gagctggct gcctgcgcgc	catcgccctc tttaaccctg	actccaaggg gctctcgaaac	480
ccggccgagg tggaggcgct	gagggagaag gtctatgcgt	ccttggaggc ctactgcaag	540
cacaagtacc cagagcagcc	gggaaggttc gctaagctct	tgctccgcct gccggctctg	600
cgctccatcg ggctcaaatg	cctggaacat ctcttctct	tcaagctcat cggggacaca	660
cccatggaca cc			672

<210> 31  
 <211> 328  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<400> 31

Cys Ala Ile Cys Gly Asp Arg Ser Ser	Gly Lys His Tyr Gly Val Tyr	
1 5	10	15
Ser Cys Glu Gly Cys Lys Gly Phe Phe	Lys Arg Thr Val Arg Lys Asp	
20 25	30	
Leu Thr Tyr Thr Cys Arg Asp Asn Lys Asp Cys	Leu Ile Asp Lys Arg	
35 40	45	
Gln Arg Asn Arg Cys Gln Tyr Cys Arg Tyr Gln Lys Cys	Leu Ala Met	
50 55	60	
Gly Met Lys Arg Glu Ala Val Gln Glu Glu Arg Gln Arg Gly Lys Asp		
65 70	75	80
Arg Asn Glu Asn Glu Val Glu Ser Thr Ser Ser Ala Asn Glu Asp Met		
85 90	95	
Pro Val Glu Lys Ile Leu Glu Ala Glu Leu Ala Val Glu Pro Lys Thr		
100 105	110	
Glu Thr Tyr Val Glu Ala Asn Met Gly Leu Asn Pro Ser Ser Pro Asn		
115 120	125	
Asp Pro Val Thr Asn Ile Cys Gln Ala Ala Asp Lys Gln Leu Phe Thr		
130 135	140	
Leu Val Glu Trp Ala Lys Arg Ile Pro His Phe Ser Glu Leu Pro Leu		
145 150	155	160
Asp Asp Gln Val Ile Leu Leu Arg Ala Gly Trp Asn Glu Leu Leu Ile		
165 170	175	
Ala Ser Phe Ser His Arg Ser Ile Ala Val Lys Asp Gly Ile Leu Leu		
180 185	190	
Ala Thr Gly Leu His Val His Arg Asn Ser Ala His Ser Ala Gly Val		
195 200	205	
Gly Ala Ile Phe Asp Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Leu Val Ser Lys Met Arg		

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210	215	220
Asp Met Gln Met Asp Lys Thr Glu Leu Gly Cys Leu Arg Ala Ile Val		
225	230	235 240
Leu Phe Asn Pro Asp Ser Lys Gly Leu Ser Asn Pro Ala Glu Val Glu		
245	250	255
Ala Leu Arg Glu Lys Val Tyr Ala Ser Leu Glu Ala Tyr Cys Lys His		
260	265	270
Lys Tyr Pro Glu Gln Pro Gly Arg Phe Ala Lys Leu Leu Leu Arg Leu		
275	280	285
Pro Ala Leu Arg Ser Ile Gly Leu Lys Cys Leu Glu His Leu Phe Phe		
290	295	300
Phe Lys Leu Ile Gly Asp Thr Pro Ile Asp Thr Phe Leu Met Glu Met		
305	310	315 320
Leu Glu Ala Pro His Gln Ala Thr		
325		
<210> 32		
<211> 262		
<212> PRT		
<213> Artificial Sequence		
<400> 32		
Lys Arg Glu Ala Val Gln Glu Glu Arg Gln Arg Gly Lys Asp Arg Asn		
1	5	10 15
Glu Asn Glu Val Glu Ser Thr Ser Ala Asn Glu Asp Met Pro Val		
20	25	30
Glu Lys Ile Leu Glu Ala Glu Leu Ala Val Glu Pro Lys Thr Glu Thr		
35	40	45
Tyr Val Glu Ala Asn Met Gly Leu Asn Pro Ser Ser Pro Asn Asp Pro		
50	55	60
Val Thr Asn Ile Cys Gln Ala Ala Asp Lys Gln Leu Phe Thr Leu Val		
65	70	75 80
Glu Trp Ala Lys Arg Ile Pro His Phe Ser Glu Leu Pro Leu Asp Asp		
85	90	95
Gln Val Ile Leu Leu Arg Ala Gly Trp Asn Glu Leu Leu Ile Ala Ser		
100	105	110
Phe Ser His Arg Ser Ile Ala Val Lys Asp Gly Ile Leu Leu Ala Thr		
115	120	125
Gly Leu His Val His Arg Asn Ser Ala His Ser Ala Gly Val Gly Ala		
130	135	140
Ile Phe Asp Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Leu Val Ser Lys Met Arg Asp Met		
145	150	155 160
Gln Met Asp Lys Thr Glu Leu Gly Cys Leu Arg Ala Ile Val Leu Phe		
165	170	175
Asn Pro Asp Ser Lys Gly Leu Ser Asn Pro Ala Glu Val Glu Ala Leu		
180	185	190

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Arg Glu Lys Val Tyr Ala Ser Leu Glu Ala Tyr Cys Lys His Lys Tyr  
 195 200 205

Pro Glu Gln Pro Gly Arg Phe Ala Lys Leu Leu Leu Arg Leu Pro Ala  
 210 215 220

Leu Arg Ser Ile Gly Leu Lys Cys Leu Glu His Leu Phe Phe Phe Lys  
 225 230 235 240

Leu Ile Gly Asp Thr Pro Ile Asp Thr Phe Leu Met Glu Met Leu Glu  
 245 250 255

Ala Pro His Gln Ala Thr  
 260

<210> 33

<211> 237

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<400> 33

Ala Asn Glu Asp Met Pro Val Glu Lys Ile Leu Glu Ala Glu Leu Ala  
 1 5 10 15

Val Glu Pro Lys Thr Glu Thr Tyr Val Glu Ala Asn Met Gly Leu Asn  
 20 25 30

Pro Ser Ser Pro Asn Asp Pro Val Thr Asn Ile Cys Gln Ala Ala Asp  
 35 40 45

Lys Gln Leu Phe Thr Leu Val Glu Trp Ala Lys Arg Ile Pro His Phe  
 50 55 60

Ser Glu Leu Pro Leu Asp Asp Gln Val Ile Leu Leu Arg Ala Gly Trp  
 65 70 75 80

Asn Glu Leu Leu Ile Ala Ser Phe Ser His Arg Ser Ile Ala Val Lys  
 85 90 95

Asp Gly Ile Leu Leu Ala Thr Gly Leu His Val His Arg Asn Ser Ala  
 100 105 110

His Ser Ala Gly Val Gly Ala Ile Phe Asp Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Leu  
 115 120 125

Val Ser Lys Met Arg Asp Met Gln Met Asp Lys Thr Glu Leu Gly Cys  
 130 135 140

Leu Arg Ala Ile Val Leu Phe Asn Pro Asp Ser Lys Gly Leu Ser Asn  
 145 150 155 160

Pro Ala Glu Val Glu Ala Leu Arg Glu Lys Val Tyr Ala Ser Leu Glu  
 165 170 175

Ala Tyr Cys Lys His Lys Tyr Pro Glu Gln Pro Gly Arg Phe Ala Lys  
 180 185 190

Leu Leu Leu Arg Leu Pro Ala Leu Arg Ser Ile Gly Leu Lys Cys Leu  
 195 200 205

Glu His Leu Phe Phe Phe Lys Leu Ile Gly Asp Thr Pro Ile Asp Thr  
 210 215 220

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Phe Leu Met Glu Met Leu Glu Ala Pro His Gln Ala Thr  
225 230 235

<210> 34  
<211> 177  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<400> 34

Ile Pro His Phe Ser Glu Leu Pro Leu Asp Asp Gln Val Ile Leu Leu  
1 5 10 15

Arg Ala Gly Trp Asn Glu Leu Leu Ile Ala Ser Phe Ser His Arg Ser  
20 25 30

Ile Ala Val Lys Asp Gly Ile Leu Leu Ala Thr Gly Leu His Val His  
35 40 45

Arg Asn Ser Ala His Ser Ala Gly Val Gly Ala Ile Phe Asp Arg Val  
50 55 60

Leu Thr Glu Leu Val Ser Lys Met Arg Asp Met Gln Met Asp Lys Thr  
65 70 75 80

Glu Leu Gly Cys Leu Arg Ala Ile Val Leu Phe Asn Pro Asp Ser Lys  
85 90 95

Gly Leu Ser Asn Pro Ala Glu Val Glu Ala Leu Arg Glu Lys Val Tyr  
100 105 110

Ala Ser Leu Glu Ala Tyr Cys Lys His Lys Tyr Pro Glu Gln Pro Gly  
115 120 125

Arg Phe Ala Lys Leu Leu Arg Leu Pro Ala Leu Arg Ser Ile Gly  
130 135 140

Leu Lys Cys Leu Glu His Leu Phe Phe Lys Leu Ile Gly Asp Thr  
145 150 155 160

Pro Ile Asp Thr Phe Leu Met Glu Met Leu Glu Ala Pro His Gln Ala  
165 170 175

Thr

<210> 35  
<211> 224  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<400> 35

Ala Asn Glu Asp Met Pro Val Glu Lys Ile Leu Glu Ala Glu Leu Ala  
1 5 10 15

Val Glu Pro Lys Thr Glu Thr Tyr Val Glu Ala Asn Met Gly Leu Asn  
20 25 30

Pro Ser Ser Pro Asn Asp Pro Val Thr Asn Ile Cys Gln Ala Ala Asp  
35 40 45

Lys Gln Leu Phe Thr Leu Val Glu Trp Ala Lys Arg Ile Pro His Phe  
50 55 60

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Ser Glu Leu Pro Leu Asp Asp Gln Val Ile Leu Leu Arg Ala Gly Trp  
 65 70 75 80

Asn Glu Leu Leu Ile Ala Ser Phe Ser His Arg Ser Ile Ala Val Lys  
 85 90 95

Asp Gly Ile Leu Leu Ala Thr Gly Leu His Val His Arg Asn Ser Ala  
 100 105 110

His Ser Ala Gly Val Gly Ala Ile Phe Asp Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Leu  
 115 120 125

Val Ser Lys Met Arg Asp Met Gln Met Asp Lys Thr Glu Leu Gly Cys  
 130 135 140

Leu Arg Ala Ile Val Leu Phe Asn Pro Asp Ser Lys Gly Leu Ser Asn  
 145 150 155 160

Pro Ala Glu Val Glu Ala Leu Arg Glu Lys Val Tyr Ala Ser Leu Glu  
 165 170 175

Ala Tyr Cys Lys His Lys Tyr Pro Glu Gln Pro Gly Arg Phe Ala Lys  
 180 185 190

Leu Leu Leu Arg Leu Pro Ala Leu Arg Ser Ile Gly Leu Lys Cys Leu  
 195 200 205

Glu His Leu Phe Phe Lys Leu Ile Gly Asp Thr Pro Ile Asp Thr  
 210 215 220

<210> 36

<211> 328

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<221> misc\_feature

<223> Novel Sequence

<400> 36

Cys Ala Ile Cys Gly Asp Arg Ser Ser Gly Lys His Tyr Gly Val Tyr  
 1 5 10 15

Ser Cys Glu Gly Cys Lys Gly Phe Phe Lys Arg Thr Val Arg Lys Asp  
 20 25 30

Leu Thr Tyr Thr Cys Arg Asp Asn Lys Asp Cys Leu Ile Asp Lys Arg  
 35 40 45

Gln Arg Asn Arg Cys Gln Tyr Cys Arg Tyr Gln Lys Cys Leu Ala Met  
 50 55 60

Gly Met Lys Arg Glu Ala Val Gln Glu Glu Arg Gln Arg Gly Lys Asp  
 65 70 75 80

Arg Asn Glu Asn Glu Val Glu Ser Thr Ser Ser Ala Asn Glu Asp Met  
 85 90 95

Pro Val Glu Arg Ile Leu Glu Ala Glu Leu Ala Val Glu Pro Lys Thr  
 100 105 110

Glu Thr Tyr Val Glu Ala Asn Met Gly Leu Asn Pro Ser Ser Pro Asn  
 115 120 125

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Asp Pro Val Thr Asn Ile Cys Gln Ala Ala Asp Lys Gln Leu Phe Thr  
 130 135 140  
 Leu Val Glu Trp Ala Lys Arg Ile Pro His Phe Ser Glu Leu Pro Leu  
 145 150 155 160  
 Asp Asp Gln Val Ile Leu Leu Arg Ala Gly Trp Asn Glu Leu Leu Ile  
 165 170 175  
 Ala Ser Phe Ser His Arg Ser Ile Ala Val Lys Asp Gly Ile Leu Leu  
 180 185 190  
 Ala Thr Gly Leu His Val His Arg Asn Ser Ala His Ser Ala Gly Val  
 195 200 205  
 Gly Ala Ile Phe Asp Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Leu Val Ser Lys Met Arg  
 210 215 220  
 Asp Met Gln Met Asp Lys Thr Glu Leu Gly Cys Leu Arg Ala Ile Val  
 225 230 235 240  
 Leu Phe Asn Pro Asp Ser Lys Gly Leu Ser Asn Pro Ala Glu Val Glu  
 245 250 255  
 Ala Leu Arg Glu Lys Val Tyr Ala Ser Leu Glu Ala Tyr Cys Lys His  
 260 265 270  
 Lys Tyr Pro Glu Gln Pro Gly Arg Phe Ala Lys Leu Leu Arg Leu  
 275 280 285  
 Pro Ala Leu Arg Ser Ile Gly Leu Lys Cys Leu Glu His Leu Phe Phe  
 290 295 300  
 Phe Lys Leu Ile Gly Asp Thr Pro Ile Asp Thr Phe Leu Met Glu Met  
 305 310 315 320  
 Leu Glu Ala Pro His Gln Met Thr  
 325

<210> 37  
 <211> 262  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence  
  
 <220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <223> Novel Sequence

<400> 37  
  
 Lys Arg Glu Ala Val Gln Glu Glu Arg Gln Arg Gly Lys Asp Arg Asn  
 1 5 10 15  
 Glu Asn Glu Val Glu Ser Thr Ser Ser Ala Asn Glu Asp Met Pro Val  
 20 25 30  
 Glu Arg Ile Leu Glu Ala Glu Leu Ala Val Glu Pro Lys Thr Glu Thr  
 35 40 45  
 Tyr Val Glu Ala Asn Met Gly Leu Asn Pro Ser Ser Pro Asn Asp Pro  
 50 55 60  
 Val Thr Asn Ile Cys Gln Ala Ala Asp Lys Gln Leu Phe Thr Leu Val

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65	70	, 75	80
Glu Trp Ala Lys Arg Ile Pro His Phe Ser Glu Leu Pro Leu Asp Asp			
85	90	95	
Gln Val Ile Leu Leu Arg Ala Gly Trp Asn Glu Leu Leu Ile Ala Ser			
100	105	110	
Phe Ser His Arg Ser Ile Ala Val Lys Asp Gly Ile Leu Leu Ala Thr			
115	120	125	
Gly Leu His Val His Arg Asn Ser Ala His Ser Ala Gly Val Gly Ala			
130	135	140	
Ile Phe Asp Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Leu Val Ser Lys Met Arg Asp Met			
145	150	155	160
Gln Met Asp Lys Thr Glu Leu Gly Cys Leu Arg Ala Ile Val Leu Phe			
165	170	175	
Asn Pro Asp Ser Lys Gly Leu Ser Asn Pro Ala Glu Val Glu Ala Leu			
180	185	190	
Arg Glu Lys Val Tyr Ala Ser Leu Glu Ala Tyr Cys Lys His Lys Tyr			
195	200	205	
Pro Glu Gln Pro Gly Arg Phe Ala Lys Leu Leu Leu Arg Leu Pro Ala			
210	215	220	
Leu Arg Ser Ile Gly Leu Lys Cys Leu Glu His Leu Phe Phe Phe Lys			
225	230	235	240
Leu Ile Gly Asp Thr Pro Ile Asp Thr Phe Leu Met Glu Met Leu Glu			
245	250	255	
Ala Pro His Gln Met Thr			
260			
<210> 38			
<211> 237			
<212> PRT			
<213> Artificial Sequence			
<220>			
<221> misc_feature			
<223> Novel Sequence			
<400> 38			
Ala Asn Glu Asp Met Pro Val Glu Arg Ile Leu Glu Ala Glu Leu Ala			
1	5	10	15
Val Glu Pro Lys Thr Glu Thr Tyr Val Glu Ala Asn Met Gly Leu Asn			
20	25	30	
Pro Ser Ser Pro Asn Asp Pro Val Thr Asn Ile Cys Gln Ala Ala Asp			
35	40	45	
Lys Gln Leu Phe Thr Leu Val Glu Trp Ala Lys Arg Ile Pro His Phe			
50	55	60	
Ser Glu Leu Pro Leu Asp Asp Gln Val Ile Leu Leu Arg Ala Gly Trp			
65	70	75	80

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Asn Glu Leu Leu Ile Ala Ser Phe Ser His Arg Ser Ile Ala Val Lys  
 85 90 95

Asp Gly Ile Leu Leu Ala Thr Gly Leu His Val His Arg Asn Ser Ala  
 100 105 110

His Ser Ala Gly Val Gly Ala Ile Phe Asp Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Leu  
 115 120 125

Val Ser Lys Met Arg Asp Met Gln Met Asp Lys Thr Glu Leu Gly Cys  
 130 135 140

Leu Arg Ala Ile Val Leu Phe Asn Pro Asp Ser Lys Gly Leu Ser Asn  
 145 150 155 160

Pro Ala Glu Val Glu Ala Leu Arg Glu Lys Val Tyr Ala Ser Leu Glu  
 165 170 175

Ala Tyr Cys Lys His Lys Tyr Pro Glu Gln Pro Gly Arg Phe Ala Lys  
 180 185 190

Leu Leu Leu Arg Leu Pro Ala Leu Arg Ser Ile Gly Leu Lys Cys Leu  
 195 200 205

Glu His Leu Phe Phe Lys Leu Ile Gly Asp Thr Pro Ile Asp Thr  
 210 215 220

Phe Leu Met Glu Met Leu Glu Ala Pro His Gln Met Thr  
 225 230 235

<210> 39

<211> 177

<212> PRT

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<221> misc\_feature

<223> Novel Sequence

<400> 39

Ile Pro His Phe Ser Glu Leu Pro Leu Asp Asp Gln Val Ile Leu Leu  
 1 5 10 15

Arg Ala Gly Trp Asn Glu Leu Leu Ile Ala Ser Phe Ser His Arg Ser  
 20 25 30

Ile Ala Val Lys Asp Gly Ile Leu Leu Ala Thr Gly Leu His Val His  
 35 40 45

Arg Asn Ser Ala His Ser Ala Gly Val Gly Ala Ile Phe Asp Arg Val  
 50 55 60

Leu Thr Glu Leu Val Ser Lys Met Arg Asp Met Gln Met Asp Lys Thr  
 65 70 75 80

Glu Leu Gly Cys Leu Arg Ala Ile Val Leu Phe Asn Pro Asp Ser Lys  
 85 90 95

Gly Leu Ser Asn Pro Ala Glu Val Glu Ala Leu Arg Glu Lys Val Tyr  
 100 105 110

Ala Ser Leu Glu Ala Tyr Cys Lys His Lys Tyr Pro Glu Gln Pro Gly  
 115 120 125

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Arg Phe Ala Lys Leu Leu Leu Arg Leu Pro Ala Leu Arg Ser Ile Gly  
 130 135 140

Leu Lys Cys Leu Glu His Leu Phe Phe Lys Leu Ile Gly Asp Thr  
 145 150 155 160

Pro Ile Asp Thr Phe Leu Met Glu Met Leu Glu Ala Pro His Gln Met  
 165 170 175

Thr

<210> 40  
 <211> 224  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <223> Novel Sequence

&lt;400&gt; 40

Ala Asn Glu Asp Met Pro Val Glu Arg Ile Leu Glu Ala Glu Leu Ala  
 1 5 10 15

Val Glu Pro Lys Thr Glu Thr Tyr Val Glu Ala Asn Met Gly Leu Asn  
 20 25 30

Pro Ser Ser Pro Asn Asp Pro Val Thr Asn Ile Cys Gln Ala Ala Asp  
 35 40 45

Lys Gln Leu Phe Thr Leu Val Glu Trp Ala Lys Arg Ile Pro His Phe  
 50 55 60

Ser Glu Leu Pro Leu Asp Asp Gln Val Ile Leu Leu Arg Ala Gly Trp  
 65 70 75 80

Asn Glu Leu Leu Ile Ala Ser Phe Ser His Arg Ser Ile Ala Val Lys  
 85 90 95

Asp Gly Ile Leu Leu Ala Thr Gly Leu His Val His Arg Asn Ser Ala  
 100 105 110

His Ser Ala Gly Val Gly Ala Ile Phe Asp Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Leu  
 115 120 125

Val Ser Lys Met Arg Asp Met Gln Met Asp Lys Thr Glu Leu Gly Cys  
 130 135 140

Leu Arg Ala Ile Val Leu Phe Asn Pro Asp Ser Lys Gly Leu Ser Asn  
 145 150 155 160

Pro Ala Glu Val Glu Ala Leu Arg Glu Lys Val Tyr Ala Ser Leu Glu  
 165 170 175

Ala Tyr Cys Lys His Lys Tyr Pro Glu Gln Pro Gly Arg Phe Ala Lys  
 180 185 190

Leu Leu Leu Arg Leu Pro Ala Leu Arg Ser Ile Gly Leu Lys Cys Leu  
 195 200 205

Glu His Leu Phe Phe Lys Leu Ile Gly Asp Thr Pro Ile Asp Thr

210 215 220 Rh0020.3125

0> 41  
 1> 441  
 2> DNA  
 3> Artificial Sequence

0>  
 1> misc\_feature  
 3> Novel Sequence

0> 41 60  
 aagctac tgtcttctat cgaacaagca tgcgatattt gccgacttaa aaagctcaag  
 tccaaag aaaaacccgaa gtgcgccaag tgtctgaaga acaactggga gtgtcgctac 120  
 cccaaaaa cccaaaaggc tcggctgact agggcacatc tgacagaagt ggaatcaagg 180  
 gaaagac tggAACAGCT atttctactg attttcctc gagaagacct tgacatgatt 240  
 aaaaatgg attctttaca ggtataaaaa gcattgttaa caggattatt tgtacaagat 300  
 gtgaata aagatgccgt cacagataga ttggcttcag tggagactga tatgcctcta 360  
 ttggagac agcatagaat aagtgcgaca tcatcatcgg aagagagtag taacaaaggt 420  
 agacagt tgactgtatc g 441

0> 42  
 1> 147  
 2> PRT  
 3> Artificial Sequence

0>  
 1> misc\_feature  
 3> Novel Sequence

0> 42  
 Lys Leu Leu Ser Ser Ile Glu Gln Ala Cys Asp Ile Cys Arg Leu  
 5 10 15  
 Lys Leu Lys Cys Ser Lys Glu Lys Pro Lys Cys Ala Lys Cys Leu  
 20 25 30  
 Asn Asn Trp Glu Cys Arg Tyr Ser Pro Lys Thr Lys Arg Ser Pro  
 35 40 45  
 Thr Arg Ala His Leu Thr Glu Val Glu Ser Arg Leu Glu Arg Leu  
 50 55 60  
 Gln Leu Phe Leu Leu Ile Phe Pro Arg Glu Asp Leu Asp Met Ile  
 70 75 80  
 Lys Met Asp Ser Leu Gln Asp Ile Lys Ala Leu Leu Thr Gly Leu  
 85 90 95  
 Val Gln Asp Asn Val Asn Lys Asp Ala Val Thr Asp Arg Leu Ala  
 100 105 110  
 Val Glu Thr Asp Met Pro Leu Thr Leu Arg Gln His Arg Ile Ser  
 115 120 125

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Ala Thr Ser Ser Ser Glu Glu Ser Ser Asn Lys Gly Gln Arg Gln Leu  
 130 135 140

Thr Val Ser  
 145

<210> 43  
 <211> 606  
 <212> DNA  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <223> Novel Sequence

<400> 43  
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 cagacaggta tgccgcccac gcgtgcggaa atcgcgcagc gtttggggtt ccgttccca  
 aacgcggctg aagaacatct gaaggcgctg gcacgc当地 aatgtttcc  
 ggcgc当地 gcccattcg tctgttgcag gaagaggaag aagggttgc当地 gctggtaggt  
 cgtgtggctg cccgtgaacc acttctggcg caacagcata ttgaaggta ttatcaggta  
 gatccttcct tattcaagcc gaatgtgtat ttccctgctgc gcgtcagc当地 gatgtcgatg  
 aaagatatacg gcattatgga tggtgacttg ctggcagtgc ataaaactca ggatgtacgt  
 aacggtcagg tcgttgc当地 acgtattgtat gacgaaggta ccgttaagcg cctgaaaaaa  
 caggcaata aagtcgaact gttgccagaa aatagcgagt ttaaaccat tgc当地 tagat  
 cttcgtc当地 agagcttcac cattgaaggg ctggcggttg gggatttgc caacggc当地  
 tggctg 606

<210> 44  
 <211> 202  
 <212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <223> Novel Sequence

&lt;400&gt; 44

Met Lys Ala Leu Thr Ala Arg Gln Gln Glu Val Phe Asp Leu Ile Arg  
 1 5 10 15

Asp His Ile Ser Gln Thr Gly Met Pro Pro Thr Arg Ala Glu Ile Ala  
 20 25 30

Gln Arg Leu Gly Phe Arg Ser Pro Asn Ala Ala Glu Glu His Leu Lys  
 35 40 45

Ala Leu Ala Arg Lys Gly Val Ile Glu Ile Val Ser Gly Ala Ser Arg  
 50 55 60

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Gly Ile Arg Leu Leu Gln Glu Glu Glu Glu	Gly Leu Pro Leu Val	Gly	
65	70	75	80
Arg Val Ala Ala Gly Glu Pro Leu Leu Ala Gln Gln His Ile Glu Gly			
85		90	95
'His Tyr Gln Val Asp Pro Ser Leu Phe Lys Pro Asn Ala Asp Phe Leu			
100	105	110	
Leu Arg Val Ser Gly Met Ser Met Lys Asp Ile Gly Ile Met Asp Gly			
115	120	125	
Asp Leu Leu Ala Val His Lys Thr Gln Asp Val Arg Asn Gly Gln Val			
130	135	140	
Val Val Ala Arg Ile Asp Asp Glu Val Thr Val Lys Arg Leu Lys Lys			
145	150	155	160
Gln Gly Asn Lys Val Glu Leu Leu Pro Glu Asn Ser Glu Phe Lys Pro			
165	170	175	
Ile Val Val Asp Leu Arg Gln Gln Ser Phe Thr Ile Glu Gly Leu Ala			
180	185	190	

Val Gly Val Ile Arg Asn Gl  
195  
<210> 45  
<211> 271  
<212> DNA  
<213> Artificial Sequence

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<220>
<221> misc_feature
<223> Novel Sequence
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<400> 45
atggggcccta aaaagaagcg taaagtgcgcc ccccccgaccg atgtcagcct gggggacgag 60
ctcccaacttag acggcgagga cgtggcgatg gcgcatgccc acgcgctaga cgatttcgat 120
ctggacatgt tgggggacgg ggattccccg gggccggat ttacccccc a cgactccgccc 180
ccctacggcg ctctggatat ggccgacttc gagtttgagc agatgtttac cgatgccctt 240
ggaattgacg agtacgggtgg ggaattccccg g 271
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<210> 46  
<211> 90  
<212> PRT  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<221> misc\_feature  
<223> Novel Sequence

<400> 46

Met Gly Pro Lys Lys Lys Arg Lys Val Ala Pro Pro Thr Asp Val Ser  
1 5 10 15

Leu Gly Asp Glu Leu His Leu Asp Gly Glu Asp Val Ala Met Ala His

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20 25 30

Ala Asp Ala Leu Asp Asp Phe Asp Leu Asp Met Leu Gly Asp Gly Asp  
35 40 45

Ser Pro Gly Pro Gly Phe Thr Pro His Asp Ser Ala Pro Tyr Gly Ala  
50 55 60

Leu Asp Met Ala Asp Phe Glu Phe Glu Gln Met Phe Thr Asp Ala Leu  
65 70 75 80

Gly Ile Asp Glu Tyr Gly Gly Glu Phe Pro  
85 90

<210> 47

<211> 19

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<221> misc\_feature

<223> Novel Sequence

<400> 47

ggagtactgt cctccgagc

19

<210> 48

<211> 666

<212> DNA

<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>

<221> misc\_feature

<223> Novel Sequence

<400> 48

ggatccccag cttggaattc gacaggttat cagcaacaac acagtcataat ccattctcaa

60

ttagctctac cacagtgtgt gaaccaatgt atccagcacc acctgttaacc aaaacaattt

120

tagaagtact ttcactttgt aactgagctg tcatttatat tgaattttca aaaattctta

180

ctttttttttt gnatggacgc aaagaagttt aataatcata ttacatggca ttaccaccat

240

atacatatcc atatacatat ccatatctaa tcttacctcg actgctgtat ataaaaccag

300

tggttatatg tacagtactg ctgtatataa aaccagtggt tatatgtaca gtacgtcgac

360

tgctgtatat aaaaccagtg gttatatgtc cagtaactgct gtatataaaa ccagtggta

420

tatgtacagt acgtcgaggg atgataatgc gattagttt ttagccttat ttctgggta

480

attaatcagc gaagcgatga ttttgatct attaacagat atataaatgc aaaaactgca

540

taaccacttt aactaatact ttcaacattt tcggtttgc ttacttctta ttcaaatgt

600

ataaaaagtat caacaaaaaaa ttgttaatat acctctatac tttaacgtca aggagaaaaaa

660

actata

666

<210> 49

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<211> 1542  
 <212> DNA  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <223> Novel Sequence

<400> 49  
 ctggacctga aacacgaagt ggcttaccga ggggtgctcc caggccaggt gaaggccgaa 60  
 ccgggggtcc acaacggcca ggtcaacggc cacgtgaggg actggatggc aggcggcgct 120  
 ggtgccaatt cgccgtctcc gggagcggtg gctcaacccc agcctaacaa tgggtattcg 180  
 tcgcccactct cctcgggaag ctacgggccc tacagtccaa atggaaaat agggcgtgag 240  
 gaactgtcgc cagcttcaag tataaatggg tgcaagtacag atggcgaggc acgacgtcag 300  
 aagaagggcc ctgcgccccg tcagcaagag gaactgtgtc tggtatgcgg ggacagagcc 360  
 tccggataacc actacaatgc gctcacgtgt gaagggtgta aagggttctt cagacggagt 420  
 gttaccaaaa atgcggttta tattttaaaa ttccggtcacg cttgcgaaaat ggacatgtac 480  
 atgcgacgga aatgccagga gtgccgcctg aagaagtgtc tagctgttagg catgaggcct 540  
 gagtgcttag tacccgagac tcagtgcgc atgaagcgg aagagaagaa agcacagaag 600  
 gagaaggaca aactgcctgt cagcacgacg acgggtggacg accacatgcc gcccattatg 660  
 cagtgtgaac ctccacctcc tgaagcagca aggattcacg aagtggtccc aaggtttctc 720  
 tccgacaagc tggtgagac aaaccggcag aaaaacatcc cccagttgac agccaaccag 780  
 cagttccctta tcgccaggct catctggtag caggacgggt acgagcagcc ttctgtgaa 840  
 gatttgaaga ggattacgcgac gacgtggcag caagcggacg atgaaaacgcg agagtctgac 900  
 actcccttcc gccagatcac agagatgact atcctcacgg tccaaacttat cgtggagttc 960  
 gcgaaggat tgccagggtt cgccaaatgc tcgcgcctg atcaaattac gctgcttaag 1020  
 gcttgcctaa gtgaggtaat gatgctccga gtcgcgcac gatacgatgc ggcctcagac 1080  
 agtgttctgt tcgcgaacaa ccaagcgtac actcgacgaca actaccgcaa ggctggcatg 1140  
 gcctacgtca tcgaggatct actgcacttc tgccggtgca tgtactctat ggcgttggac 1200  
 aacatccatt acgcgcgtct cacggctgtc gtcatcttt ctgaccggcc agggttggag 1260  
 cagccgcaac tggtggaaaga aatccagcgg tactacctga atacgctccg catctatatc 1320  
 ctgaaccagc tgagcgggtc ggcgcgttcg tccgtcatat acggcaagat cctctcaatc 1380  
 ctctctgagc tacgcacgct cggcatgca aactccaaca tgtgcacatc cctcaagctc 1440  
 aagaacagaa agctgcccgc tttcctcgag gagatctggg atgtggcgg aatgtcgcac 1500  
 acccaaccgc cgccatcctt cggatcccc accaatctct ag 1542

<210> 50  
 <211> 513

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<212> PRT  
 <213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
 <221> misc\_feature  
 <223> Novel Sequence

&lt;400&gt; 50

Leu Asp Leu Lys His Glu Val Ala Tyr Arg Gly Val Leu Pro Gly Gln  
 1 5 10 15

Val Lys Ala Glu Pro Gly Val His Asn Gly Gln Val Asn Gly His Val  
 20 25 30

Arg Asp Trp Met Ala Gly Gly Ala Asn Ser Pro Ser Pro Gly  
 35 40 45

Ala Val Ala Gln Pro Gln Pro Asn Asn Gly Tyr Ser Ser Pro Leu Ser  
 50 55 60

Ser Gly Ser Tyr Gly Pro Tyr Ser Pro Asn Gly Lys Ile Gly Arg Glu  
 65 70 75 80

Glu Leu Ser Pro Ala Ser Ser Ile Asn Gly Cys Ser Thr Asp Gly Glu  
 85 90 95

Ala Arg Arg Gln Lys Lys Gly Pro Ala Pro Arg Gln Gln Glu Glu Leu  
 100 105 110

Cys Leu Val Cys Gly Asp Arg Ala Ser Gly Tyr His Tyr Asn Ala Leu  
 115 120 125

Thr Cys Glu Gly Cys Lys Gly Phe Phe Arg Arg Ser Val Thr Lys Asn  
 130 135 140

Ala Val Tyr Ile Cys Lys Phe Gly His Ala Cys Glu Met Asp Met Tyr  
 145 150 155 160

Met Arg Arg Lys Cys Gln Glu Cys Arg Leu Lys Lys Cys Leu Ala Val  
 165 170 175

Gly Met Arg Pro Glu Cys Val Val Pro Glu Thr Gln Cys Ala Met Lys  
 180 185 190

Arg Lys Glu Lys Lys Ala Gln Lys Glu Lys Asp Lys Leu Pro Val Ser  
 195 200 205

Thr Thr Thr Val Asp Asp His Met Pro Pro Ile Met Gln Cys Glu Pro  
 210 215 220

Pro Pro Pro Glu Ala Ala Arg Ile His Glu Val Val Pro Arg Phe Leu  
 225 230 235 240

Ser Asp Lys Leu Leu Glu Thr Asn Arg Gln Lys Asn Ile Pro Gln Leu  
 245 250 255

Thr Ala Asn Gln Gln Phe Leu Ile Ala Arg Leu Ile Trp Tyr Gln Asp  
 260 265 270

Gly Tyr Glu Gln Pro Ser Asp Glu Asp Leu Lys Arg Ile Thr Gln Thr  
 275 280 285

Trp Gln Gln Ala Asp Asp Glu Asn Glu Glu Ser Asp Thr Pro Phe Arg

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290	295	300
Gln Ile Thr Glu Met Thr Ile Leu Thr Val Gln Leu Ile Val Glu Phe		
305	310	315
320		
Ala Lys Gly Leu Pro Gly Phe Ala Lys Ile Ser Gln Pro Asp Gln Ile		
325	330	335
340		
Thr Leu Leu Lys Ala Cys Ser Ser Glu Val Met Met Leu Arg Val Ala		
345	350	
355		
Arg Arg Tyr Asp Ala Ala Ser Asp Ser Val Leu Phe Ala Asn Asn Gln		
360	365	
370		
Ala Tyr Thr Arg Asp Asn Tyr Arg Lys Ala Gly Met Ala Tyr Val Ile		
375	380	
385		
Glu Asp Leu Leu His Phe Cys Arg Cys Met Tyr Ser Met Ala Leu Asp		
390	395	400
405		
Asn Ile His Tyr Ala Leu Leu Thr Ala Val Val Ile Phe Ser Asp Arg		
410	415	
420		
Pro Gly Leu Glu Gln Pro Gln Leu Val Glu Glu Ile Gln Arg Tyr Tyr		
425	430	
435		
Leu Asn Thr Leu Arg Ile Tyr Ile Leu Asn Gln Leu Ser Gly Ser Ala		
440	445	
450		
Arg Ser Ser Val Ile Tyr Gly Lys Ile Leu Ser Ile Leu Ser Glu Leu		
455	460	
465		
Arg Thr Leu Gly Met Gln Asn Ser Asn Met Cys Ile Ser Leu Lys Leu		
470	475	480
485		
Lys Asn Arg Lys Leu Pro Pro Phe Leu Glu Glu Ile Trp Asp Val Ala		
490	495	
500		
Asp Met Ser His Thr Gln Pro Pro Pro Ile Leu Glu Ser Pro Thr Asn		
505	510	

Leu

<210> 51  
<211> 4375  
<212> DNA  
<213> Artificial Sequence

<220>  
<221> misc\_feature  
<223> Novel Sequence

<400> 51  
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aaaaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaat atcagttgtt ttgtccctcg ctgcgttcg agtgtattcg 120  
gaatattaga cgtcataatt cacgagtgtc tttaaattt atatagcgat tagcggggcc 180  
gtttgttggc cgtgcgcctt cgttttagtgg agtgcaggga tagtgaggcg agtatggtag 240  
ttcgtggtca tgtcaagtgt ggcgaagaaa gacaagccga cgatgtcggt gacggcgctg 300

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atcaactggg	cgcgccggc	gccgccaggc	ccgcccagc	cgcagtcagc	gtgcctgcg	360
ccggcagcca	tgctgcagca	gctcccgacg	cagtcaatgc	agtcgttaaa	ccacatccca	420
actgtcgatt	gctcgctcga	tatgcagtgg	cttaatttag	aacctggatt	catgtcgcc	480
atgtcacctc	ctgagatgaa	accagacacc	gccatgcttg	atgggctacg	agacgacgcc	540
acttcgcccgc	ctaacttcaa	gaactacccg	cctaattcacc	ccctgagtg	ctccaaacac	600
ctatgtctta	tatgcggcga	cagggcgtct	gggaagcact	atggggtgta	cagttgcgaa	660
ggatgcaagg	gtttcttcaa	gcggaccgtc	cggaggacc	tgtcgtacgc	ttgccgggag	720
gagcggact	gcatcataga	caagcgacaa	aggaaccgat	gccagtactg	ccgctatcaa	780
aagtgtttgg	cttgcggtat	gaagcgagag	gcgggtgcaag	aggagcgcca	gaggaatgct	840
cgcggcgcgg	aggatgcbc	cccgagtagc	tcgggtgcagg	taagcgatga	gctgtcaatc	900
gagcgcctaa	cgagatgga	gtctttggtg	gcagatccca	gcgaggagtt	ccagttcctc	960
cgcgtggggc	ctgacagcaa	cgtgcctcca	cgttaccgcg	cgcgcgtctc	ctccctctgc	1020
caaataaggca	acaagcaa	atgcggcgtt	gtggtatggg	cgcgcgacat	ccctcatttc	1080
ggcagctgg	agctggacga	tcaagtggta	ctcatcaagg	cctcctggaa	ttagctgcta	1140
ctcttcgcca	tcgcctggcg	ctctatggag	tatttggaa	atgagaggga	gaacggggac	1200
ggaacgcgga	gcaccactca	gccacaactg	atgtgtctca	tgcctggcat	gacgttgcac	1260
cgcactcgg	cgcagcaggc	ggcgtgggc	gccatctcg	accgcgtgct	gtccgagctc	1320
agtctgaaga	tgcgcacctt	gcgcacggac	caggccgagt	acgtcgcgct	caaagccatc	1380
gtgctgctca	accctgatgt	gaaaggactg	aagaatcgcc	aagaagttga	cgtttgcga	1440
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cggtttgcgt	ccttgctgct	gcggctgcca	gctctccgct	ccatctcgct	caagagcttc	1560
gaacacctct	acttcttcca	cctcggtggcc	gaaggctcca	tcagcggata	catacgagag	1620
gcgctccgaa	accacgcgc	tccgatcgac	gtcaatgcca	tgtgttaaag	tgcgatacac	1680
gccctgcccga	tgtgagaaga	actatggcta	atagaagcga	aactgaatac	atctagggtg	1740
ggacttaact	tggactatac	attaaagtat	cacgcaaatt	atgcgtagtc	agaaagtcgc	1800
gtcgatcaaa	ctttttata	aacgaattga	gtttctaacg	actgcaacac	agcggagttt	1860
tgcttctgat	agtttttatt	ctaatggta	agatgcttta	cacggcatt	attgacattc	1920
aagtgttaagt	ggaagttgac	aaccttgaca	tttatatcac	gtttgttaatt	ggttaaataa	1980
attaatataat	cacaagtaag	actaacatca	acgtcacgat	actaacgc	ttagtgata	2040
tttttcatgt	caagaaactc	attgtttga	taaaatattt	ttctaattac	tccagtgaac	2100
tcatccaaat	gtgacccagt	ttcccgaga	gttgcggcgt	taaaatcatc	tttagggaca	2160
tatccccccgc	tatctcatga	aattccaagg	atcagtaggg	gccaattccc	ccgatgtgtt	2220
gggaggcaga	attttcgata	atctacgact	attgttagcc	tacgaatttag	ttgaattttt	2280

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tgaaattatt ttatataagt cgccactttc caaacacatc agcagggtat atgtcaatt	2340
ttgttaacgat aactctattc atttctgata tttatcgaaa ttttatctta cataacatgc	2400
tggctggtcc aggtgtttgg tagttacata tgtatctacg gtttgttttta aattatacgct	2460
tttttattgt aatctgtata aaattgagtt atcttacttc acactacgat cgagtaaacc	2520
catcgtcagc tacgaaaaac taatcgata aggcgtaaga gtaaataact aattgacaac	2580
cagcaacgag gaccacctca gtcctcgtgc ttacattgtg ccgtagctta atatgatgga	2640
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Ser	Ala	Ser	Pro	Ala	Pro	Ala	Ala	Met	Leu	Gln	Gln	Leu	Pro	Thr	Gln	
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			100					105					110			
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Lys	His	Tyr	Gly	Val	Tyr	Ser	Cys	Glu	Gly	Cys	Lys	Gly	Phe	Phe	Lys	
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Arg	Thr	Val	Arg	Lys	Asp	Leu	Ser	Tyr	Ala	Cys	Arg	Glu	Glu	Arg	Asn	
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Cys	Ile	Ile	Asp	Lys	Arg	Gln	Arg	Asn	Arg	Cys	Gln	Tyr	Cys	Arg	Tyr	
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Gin	Lys	Cys	Ieu	Ala	Cys	Gly	Met	Lys	Arg	Glu	Ala	Val	Gln	Glu	Glu	
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			195			200					205					
Val	Gln	Val	Ser	Asp	Glu	Leu	Ser	Ile	Glu	Arg	Leu	Thr	Glu	Met	Glu	
			210			215				220						
Ser	Leu	Val	Ala	Asp	Pro	Ser	Glu	Glu	Phe	Gln	Phe	Leu	Arg	Val	Gly	
			225			230				235			240			
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245	250	255
Cys Gln Ile Gly Asn Lys Gln Ile Ala Ala Leu Val Val Trp Ala Arg		
260	265	270
Asp Ile Pro His Phe Gly Gln Leu Glu Leu Asp Asp Gln Val Val Leu		
275	280	285
Ile Lys Ala Ser Trp Asn Glu Leu Leu Leu Phe Ala Ile Ala Trp Arg		
290	295	300
Ser Met Glu Tyr Leu Glu Asp Glu Arg Glu Asn Gly Asp Gly Thr Arg		
305	310	315
320		
Ser Thr Thr Gln Pro Gln Leu Met Cys Leu Met Pro Gly Met Thr Leu		
325	330	335
His Arg Asn Ser Ala Gln Gln Ala Gly Val Gly Ala Ile Phe Asp Arg		
340	345	350
Val Leu Ser Glu Leu Ser Leu Lys Met Arg Thr Leu Arg Met Asp Gln		
355	360	365
Ala Glu Tyr Val Ala Leu Lys Ala Ile Val Leu Leu Asn Pro Asp Val		
370	375	380
Lys Gly Leu Lys Asn Arg Gln Glu Val Asp Val Leu Arg Glu Lys Met		
385	390	395
400		
Phe Ser Cys Leu Asp Asp Tyr Cys Arg Arg Ser Arg Ser Asn Glu Glu		
405	410	415
Gly Arg Phe Ala Ser Leu Leu Leu Arg Leu Pro Ala Leu Arg Ser Ile		
420	425	430
Ser Leu Lys Ser Phe Glu His Leu Tyr Phe Phe His Leu Val Ala Glu		
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Gly Ser Ile Ser Gly Tyr Ile Arg Glu Ala Leu Arg Asn His Ala Pro		
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<220>  
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<400> 54

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Ser	Leu	His	Pro	Ser	Leu	Gly	Pro	Gly	Ile	Gly	Ser	Pro	Leu	Gly	Ser
	35				40					45					
Pro	Gly	Gln	Leu	His	Ser	Pro	Ile	Ser	Thr	Leu	Ser	Ser	Pro	Ile	Asn
	50					55				60					
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Pro Gln Leu Asn Ser Pro Met Asn Pro Val Ser Ser Thr Glu Asp Ile  
 100 105 110

Lys Pro Pro Leu Gly Leu Asn Gly Val Leu Lys Val Pro Ala His Pro  
 115 120 125

Ser Gly Asn Met Ala Ser Phe Thr Lys His Ile Cys Ala Ile Cys Gly  
 130 135 140

Asp Arg Ser Ser Gly Lys His Tyr Gly Val Tyr Ser Cys Glu Gly Cys  
 145 150 155 160

Lys Gly Phe Phe Lys Arg Thr Val Arg Lys Asp Leu Thr Tyr Thr Cys  
 165 170 175

Arg Asp Asn Lys Asp Cys Leu Ile Asp Lys Arg Gln Arg Asn Arg Cys  
 180 185 190

Gln Tyr Cys Arg Tyr Gln Lys Cys Leu Ala Met Gly Met Lys Arg Glu  
 195 200 205

Ala Val Gln Glu Glu Arg Gln Arg Gly Lys Asp Arg Asn Glu Asn Glu  
 210 215 220

Val Glu Ser Thr Ser Ala Asn Glu Asp Met Pro Val Glu Lys Ile  
 225 230 235 240

Leu Glu Ala Glu Leu Ala Val Glu Pro Lys Thr Glu Thr Tyr Val Glu  
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Ala Asn Met Gly Leu Asn Pro Ser Ser Pro Asn Asp Pro Val Thr Asn  
 260 265 270

Ile Cys Gln Ala Ala Asp Lys Gln Leu Phe Thr Leu Val Glu Trp Ala  
 275 280 285

Lys Arg Ile Pro His Phe Ser Glu Leu Pro Leu Asp Asp Gln Val Ile  
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Leu Leu Arg Ala Gly Trp Asn Glu Leu Leu Ile Ala Ser Phe Ser His  
 305 310 315 320

Arg Ser Ile Ala Val Lys Asp Gly Ile Leu Leu Ala Thr Gly Leu His  
 325 330 335

Val His Arg Asn Ser Ala His Ser Ala Gly Val Gly Ala Ile Phe Asp  
 340 345 350

Arg Val Leu Thr Glu Leu Val Ser Lys Met Arg Asp Met Gln Met Asp  
 355 360 365

Lys Thr Glu Leu Gly Cys Leu Arg Ala Ile Val Leu Phe Asn Pro Asp  
 370 375 380

Ser Lys Gly Leu Ser Asn Pro Ala Glu Val Glu Ala Leu Arg Glu Lys  
 385 390 395 400

Val Tyr Ala Ser Leu Glu Ala Tyr Cys Lys His Lys Tyr Pro Glu Gln  
 405 410 415

Pro Gly Arg Phe Ala Lys Leu Leu Leu Arg Leu Pro Ala Leu Arg Ser

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	ggttcaatgc	acttgcctaa	tgtcgagaga	caagggggtt	caatgcactt	gtccaatgtc	180
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	atgggtggag	tatttacggt	aaactgccc	cttggcagta	catcaagtgt	atcatatgcc	180

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Arg	Arg	Ser	Val	Thr	Lys	Asn	Ala	Val	Tyr	Ile	Cys	Lys	Phe	Gly	His
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Ala	Cys	Glu	Met	Asp	Met	Tyr	Met	Arg	Arg	Lys	Cys	Gln	Glu	Cys	Arg
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Leu	Lys	Lys	Cys	Leu	Ala	Val	Gly	Met	Arg	Pro	Glu	Cys	Val	Val	Pro
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Glu	Thr	Gln	Cys	Ala	Met	Lys	Arg	Lys	Glu	Lys	Lys	Ala	Gln	Lys	Glu
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Pro Ile Met Gln Cys Glu Pro Pro Pro Pro Glu Ala Ala Arg Ile His  
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Glu Val Val Pro Arg Phe Leu Ser Asp Lys Leu Leu Glu Thr Asn Arg  
 165 170 175

Gln Lys Asn Ile Pro Gln Leu Thr Ala Asn Gln Gln Phe Leu Ile Ala  
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Arg Leu Ile Trp Tyr Gln Asp Gly Tyr Glu Gln Pro Ser Asp Glu Asp  
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Leu Lys Arg Ile Thr Gln Thr Trp Gln Gln Ala Asp Asp Glu Asn Glu  
 210 215 220

Glu Ser Asp Thr Pro Phe Arg Gln Ile Thr Glu Met Thr Ile Leu Thr  
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Val Gln Leu Ile Val Glu Phe Ala Lys Gly Leu Pro Gly Phe Ala Lys  
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Ile Ser Gln Pro Asp Gln Ile Thr Leu Leu Lys Ala Cys Ser Ser Glu  
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Val Met Met Leu Arg Val Ala Arg Arg Tyr Asp Ala Ala Ser Asp Ser  
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Val Leu Phe Ala Asn Asn Gln Ala Tyr Thr Arg Asp Asn Tyr Arg Lys  
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Ala Gly Met Ala Tyr Val Ile Glu Asp Leu Leu His Phe Cys Arg Cys  
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Met Tyr Ser Met Ala Leu Asp Asn Ile His Tyr Ala Leu Leu Thr Ala  
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Val Val Ile Phe Ser Asp Arg Pro Gly Leu Glu Gln Pro Gln Leu Val  
 340 345 350

Glu Glu Ile Gln Arg Tyr Tyr Leu Asn Thr Leu Arg Ile Tyr Ile Leu  
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Asn Gln Leu Ser Gly Ser Ala Arg Ser Ser Val Ile Tyr Gly Lys Ile  
 370 375 380

Leu Ser Ile Leu Ser Glu Leu Arg Thr Leu Gly Met Gln Asn Ser Asn  
 385 390 395 400

Met Cys Ile Ser Leu Lys Leu Lys Asn Arg Lys Leu Pro Pro Phe Leu  
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